

SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 30th Year
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1999 WISCONSIN QSO PARTY

**SUNDAY, MARCH
14, 1999**

**SEE PAGES 7 AND 8 FOR RULES
AND ENTRY FORM**

SPONSORED BY THE WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB

THE T88II DXPEDITION

Koror, Republic of Palau

By David J. Schmocker, KJ9I



Oconomowoc resident and veteran DXpeditioner Dave Schmocker, KJ9I, is shown at the T88II operating position. This photo was reproduced from a transparency, and we hope it prints well.

Photo by John Meyer/NZ9Z

Since former attempts to activate Palau fell on very difficult times¹, we felt that extra planning, preparedness, and systems/equipment pre-testing would be in order to prepare for our attempt on Palau.

Preparation - the six Ps: (prior planning prevents pretty poor performance)

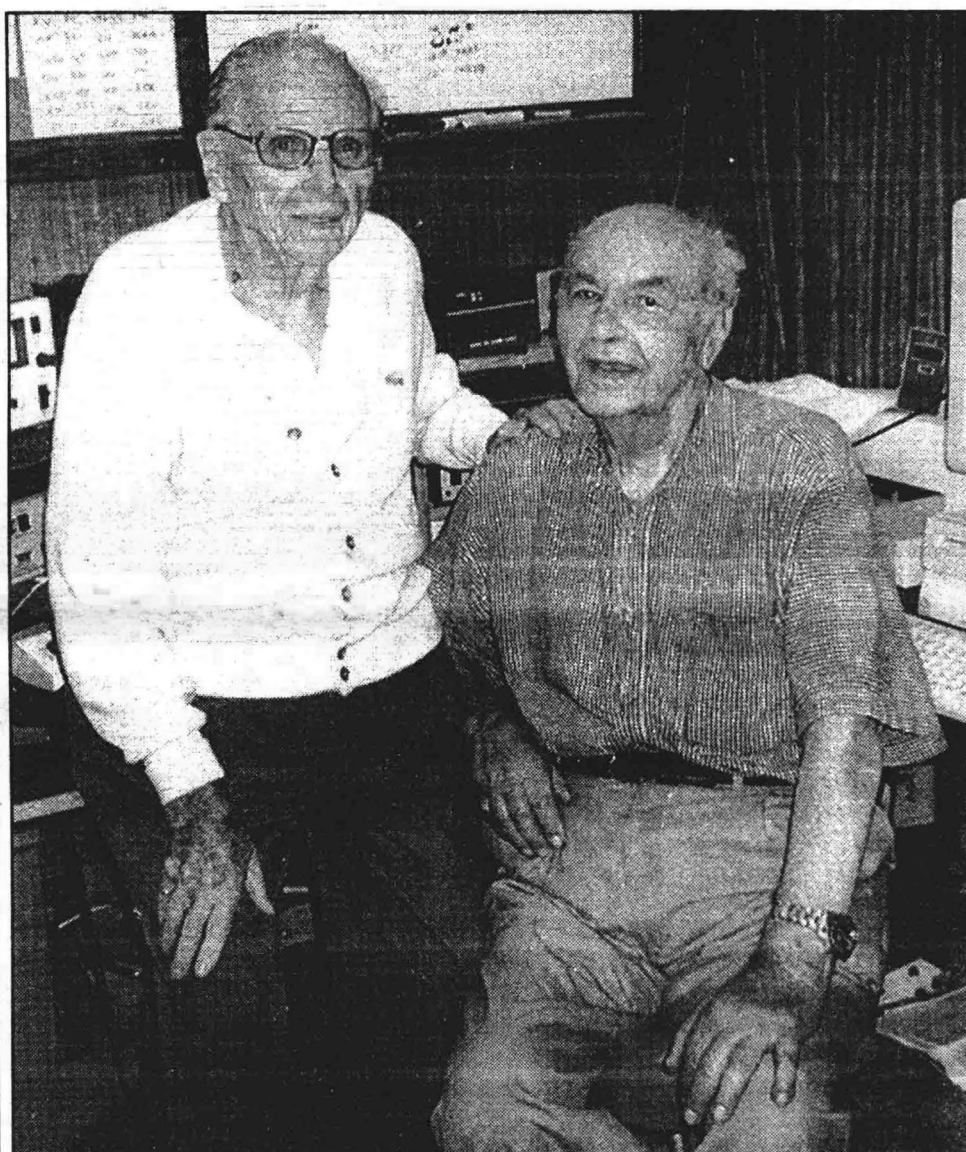
Not only had we pre-assembled and colour-coded match-fit sections of the new 10m, 12m, 15m, 17m, and 20m yagi on my Wisconsin driveway, we also pre-assembled and erected our military-style

aluminum 8 meter aluminum guyed antenna support mast. Then we hooked up and pre-tested both transceivers with their respective linear amplifiers and all accessories with which they would be used. Finally we cross-tested components to emulate the scenario under which they would be configured should we experience any equipment failure(s). We prepared and RF tested all coaxial cables and jumpers also, testing for both solid mechanical and electrical construction as well as for voltage standing wave ratio (VSWR) on all

Please turn to page 4

Diamond Anniversary Ham ♦ Style

By Wayne Johnson, K9MIF



Bob Baird, W9NN, Plover, Wisconsin (left) and Al Kahn, K4FW, have been ham radio friends for seventy-five years!

Photo courtesy Wayne Johnson/K9MIF

The date was November 17, 1923, when two young Amateur Radio operators first made contact via the then-seldom used frequencies using spark gap transmitters. It

was just after midnight when Robert Baird, U8CWR (now W9NN) and Al Kahn, 9BBI

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Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901 • kebnetter@palacenet.net

Swapfests and Other Social Events

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1999. Red Cedar Repeater Association Auction. American Legion Post 53, 634 Water Street, Eau Claire, WI. Contact: Steve Hart, KA9OMC, E616 810th Ave., Knapp, WI 54749. (715) 665-2374.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 1999. SEWFARS Swapfest, Waukesha, WI. Contact: SEWFARS Inc., PO Box 102, Delafield, WI 53018. (414) 835-7035

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 1999. Tri County Hamfest 1999 at Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Jefferson WI. Contact TCARC, 711 East St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538. (920) 563-6502, e-mail tricountyarc@globaldialog.com

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 1999. MARA Swapfest, Madison, WI. Middleton Conference Center. (Same place as last year, but new name.) Contact: MARA, PO Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890. (Watch for full ad in upcoming issues of BSSS.)

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1999. The Ozaukee Radio Club will sponsor its twenty first Annual Cedarburg Swapfest at the Circle-B Recreation Center, Cedarburg, WI. Contact Joe Holly, ORC Swapfest Chairman, 1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024. (414) 377-2137 or Skip Douglas at (414) 284-3271.

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1999. The Lakeshore Hamfest at Manitowoc County Expo, Manitowoc, WI. Contact: Glen, AA9MT (920) 684-7096 or Red, N9GHE (920) 684-9097. ManCoRad Radio Club, PO Box 204, Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 1999. The Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs, 22nd annual Swapfest and Auction at Junction City, WI. (Stevens Point area.) Contact: John Feltz, W9JN, 973 E. First St., Junction City, WI 54443-9614. (715) 457-2506. e-mail: jfw9jn@tznnet.com

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1999. South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Swapfest, American Legion Park, Shepard Avenue, South Milwaukee, WI. Contact South Milwaukee ARC, P.O. Box 102, South Milwaukee, WI 53172. (414) 762-3235.

SUNDAY, JULY 25, 1999. Racine, WI. The Racine Megacycle Club, Amateur Radio & Computer Show. Contact:

e-mail: w9udu@wi.net
voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC
web page: <http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/>

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1999. Circus City Swapfest, Baraboo, WI. Contact: Steve Schulze, N9UDO, (608) 356-2313/356-4777 or Bill Klinkner, N9KXX, (608) 643-6908/643-6453. e-mail: <http://www.thelorax.com/~sschulze/hamfest.htm>

See also the back page and flyer ads for additional information on many of these events.

Let us know of your dates as soon as you know them. We will list them and perhaps help avoid conflicts with other events. As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.



CLUB MEETINGS

Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the September 1998 meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following changes have been reported

to BSSS since that listing.

EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
2nd Tuesday - 7:30 PM Eau Claire, Parks & Recreation, 1300 First Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests welcome. Wide area coverage repeater KB9RRA 146.910 Mhz. For more info: Jim Staatz KG9MV 715-838-9108 kg9mv@ecol.net

WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
"CQ First Tue." - A social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon at the King's Table in King, WI, on Highway QQ just south of highways 10 and 54 on the west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11:00 - 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted.

"CQ Third Fri." A social gathering and Dutch treat dinner.. semi-formal, "OM & XYL" at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check Waupaca 147.390 nets at 8:00 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for that months meeting place.

QCWA - WISCONSIN CHAPTER #55
Contact Erwin Froelich, W9RZW, Treasurer, W3449 Badger Road, Pine River WI 54965. For information about meeting dates or joining QCWA Chapter #55. The Wisconsin Chapter holds Spring and Fall dinner meetings on the first Saturday of June and October.

RADIO AMATEURS OF WISCONSIN (R.A.W.) OSHKOSH, WI

R.A.W. is a family oriented club, in which most of it's activities revolve around family doings and outings. Meetings are on the 3rd saturday of each month at various locations. If you are a Ham or are interested in Ham radio, contact Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662 or Jeff Oppermann N9OSB, (920) 233-7961. We are always looking for good people to join us.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

Badger State Smoke Signals

**Amateur Radio
Education and Information**

CHAIRMAN: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. kebnetter@palacenet.net

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Dave Knaus, WA9POV; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$13.95
2 years	(24 issues - save \$1.95)	\$25.95
3 years	(36 issues - save \$3.90)	\$37.95

Subscription form is on page 5. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest **ADS** should be sent to Jim Romelfanger **NO LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.**

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. **THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN.**

This newspaper is produced by volunteer radio amateurs, and is non-profit. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901.

Badger State Smoke Signals is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-for-profit organization.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

February 06, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
February 06, 1999	Racine, WI
February 06, 1999	St. Paul, MN
February 06, 1999	Onalaska, WI
February 11, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
February 13, 1999	Blaine, MN
February 13, 1999	Madison, WI
February 13, 1999	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
February 16, 1999	Eden Prairie, MN
February 20, 1999	Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
February 20, 1999	Cottage Grove, MN
February 20, 1999	Loves Park, IL
February 20, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
February 20, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
February 27, 1999	Bloomington, MN
February 27, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
February 27, 1999	Tomahawk, WI
March 06, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
March 06, 1999	Racine, WI
March 06, 1999	St. Paul, MN
March 11, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
March 13, 1999	Blaine, MN
March 13, 1999	Madison, WI
March 13, 1999	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
March 16, 1999	Eden Prairie, MN
March 16, 1999	Sheboygan, WI
March 16, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
March 20, 1999	Cottage Grove, MN
March 20, 1999	Loves Park, IL
March 20, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
March 27, 1999	Bloomington, MN
March 27, 1999	Menomonie, WI
March 27, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
March 27, 1999	Tomahawk, WI
April 03, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 03, 1999	Racine, WI
April 03, 1999	St. Paul, MN
April 10, 1999	Blaine, MN
April 10, 1999	Eau Claire, WI
April 10, 1999	Madison, WI
April 10, 1999	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
April 15, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
April 15, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
April 17, 1999	Cottage Grove, MN
April 17, 1999	Loves Park, IL
April 17, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)

April 20, 1999 Eden Prairie, MN
 April 24, 1999 Bloomington, MN
 April 24, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 April 24, 1999 Tomahawk, WI
 May 01, 1999 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 May 01, 1999 Racine, WI
 May 01, 1999 St. Paul, MN
 May 08, 1999 Blaine, MN
 May 08, 1999 Madison, WI
 May 08, 1999 Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
 May 08, 1999 Onalaska, WI
 May 13, 1999 Apple Valley, MN
 May 15, 1999 Cottage Grove, MN
 May 15, 1999 Loves Park, IL
 May 15, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 May 15, 1999 Sheboygan, WI
 May 18, 1999 Eden Prairie, MN
 May 22, 1999 Bloomington, MN
 May 22, 1999 Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
 May 29, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 May 29, 1999 Tomahawk, WI
 July 20, 1999 Sheboygan, WI
 August 21, 1999 Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
 September 11, 1999 Sheboygan, WI
 September 11, 1999 Onalaska, WI
 October 16, 1999 Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
 November 06, 1999 Menomonie, WI
 November 06, 1999 Onalaska, WI
 November 16, 1999 Sheboygan, WI
 December 18, 1999 Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Racine, WI
 (except January, July & August)
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 Monthly, 1st Sat. St. Paul, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Thu. Apple Valley, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Madison, WI
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Blaine, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Tue. Eden Prairie, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Loves Park, IL
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Cottage Grove, MN
 Monthly, 4th Sat. Bloomington, MN
 Monthly, Last Sat. Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 (except December)
 Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI
 (January thru October only)
 Quarterly Eau Claire, WI
 (Second Saturday Jan., Apr., & Oct.)
 plus annual summer hamfest.)

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Some examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL. Send a 32c/ SASE if you request one from the ARRL. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.45 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE or CSCE to the VEC. You must also have two good copies of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 610 and most VEC want a copy for their records. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.shtml>

By checking this page, a person can find out registered VE sessions anywhere in US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC, it is a master database. (Thanks to KB9EQI for information.)

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB (MRAC/VEC)

SECOND SATURDAY - OAK CREEK, WI
LAST SATURDAY - MILWAUKEE, WI

SECOND SATURDAY DATE: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Wauwatosa Savings Bank, 6560 S. 27th St., Oak Creek, WI.

LAST SATURDAY DATES: (except December): 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee, WI. Note: For Additional Information: Call (414) 466-HAMS (Answering Machine).

Bring along your ORIGINAL license, CSCE (if any) and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required

is \$6.35 for the exam fee. WALK-INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, every third Saturday MORNING. Exam times are 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the old Serman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$6.35, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

MADISON, WI

VE exams are held in Madison every second Saturday morning of the month at 8 a.m. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. To get there take the Beltline (Hwy 12 & 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile till South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Rd. and enter at gate.

You should bring a picture ID, your original licence and a copy of your licence. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$6.35, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, NZ9B

MENOMONIE, WI

VEC Exams of all levels will be held Saturday March 27, at the UW-Stout Communications Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonie, Wisconsin. Walk-ins only. Walk in between 9:00 and 11:00 am. For further information, contact Jim Ley, NX9F. (W) 715-232-1397 or (H) 715-235-3998.

STEVENS POINT, WI

ARRL Exams in Stevens Point, Time: 0930. Place: A107 Science Building, on campus at UWSP (corner of Fourth and Reserve streets) For more information contact Joe Larson, N9JW, at 715- 344-1182 evenings or email to joel8@bigfoot.com.

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Monthly exams are given 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walkins are permitted.

Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 886-8551.

TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct. Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC

MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST)

KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All test sessions in Appleton are held at James Madison Jr. High, 2020 S. Carpenter Street. Testing starting at 8 a.m. For Appleton information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. For Manitowoc or Kaukauna information, contact Larry Siebers, KD9IA (920) 759-1167.

OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.35. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

OSHKOSH, WI (R.A.W.) - (W5YI/VEC)

February 20, 1999, May 22, 1999, August 21, 1999, October 16, 1999, December 18, 1999. Sponsored by Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin (R.A.W.) Testing sessions at

UW Oshkosh, College of Nursing Building, 845 Algoma Blvd., Room 211, Oshkosh, WI. Park free in lot 29 on side of building or in lot 25 behind the building. Registration start at 9 a.m. \$6.35 per test. Bring 2 forms of id etc. Walkins are welcome. Contact: Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231- 1662 or Mike O'Conner, K9II (920) 231-7093.

EAU CLAIRE, WI

The Eau Claire ARC will hold exam sessions on the second Saturday in the months of January, April, and October, as well as on the date of their annual hamfest during the summer. For more info: Steve Bluem KA9OMY 715-839-6509

SHEBOYGAN, WI

All sessions will be held in the Red Cross building, 2023 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI, in the SCARC meeting room on the lower level of the building. This area is not readily handicapped accessible. In the event there is a candidate who would be affected by this situation, we will accommodate that person in one of the Red Cross conference rooms on the main level of the building which IS handicapped accessible. Pre-registraton is necessary (we don't want get caught sort!) Contact: Art Pahr, K9XJ, N8209 Willow Road, Plymouth, WI 53073-2929. (920) 876-2370. e-mail <k9xj@excel.net>

ONALASKA, WI (ARRL/VEC)

The Riverland Amateur Radio Club will hold test sessions at the Onalaska Public Library, 741 Oak Avenue South. registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Please bring two forms of identification and two copies of all original documents, CSCEs, license, etc. For more information contact: Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 526 13th Ave. N., Onalaska, WI 54650. (608) 783-0723.

MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Taylor County Area AREC, Registration starts 8:30 a.m., testing starts 9:00 a.m. Location: The conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Take Ogden St. west off of Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park in the lots on the east or south sides of the courthouse or on the street. PLEASE use the entrance on the south side of the courthouse and watch of the signs. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054

PEWAUKEE, WI

The location is a little more handicap accessible, room S110 in the back of the science building by the handicap parking entrance. WCTC is on Hwy JJ off Hwy 16 from the East I-94 and Hwy T from West I-94 just north of GE Medical Systems. Tests start at 9:00 AM and registration ends at 10:00 AM. Contact: Al Johnson, AA7CS

HUDSON, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsor: St. Croix Valley AR Testing Col. Time: Call for time and walk-in info. Contact: Gregory Miller (715)386-9857

Location: St. Croix County Emergency, Government Center by jail, Carmichal Rd. lower level, Hudson, WI 54016. (Information tnx ARRL Web site)

FRIENDSHIP, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsor: Adams County ARC. Location: Adams-Columbia electric Cooperative (Community Room), 410 E. Lake St., Friendship, WI 53934. Contact: Karl Simonson, KB9EQI, (608) 565-6533. kb9eqi@iname.com

CEDARBURG, WI - ORC HAMFEST

EAU CLAIRE, WI - ECARC HAMFEST

GREEN BAY, WI - ARES HAMFEST

HAYWARD, WI - HAYWARD HAMFEST

KAUKAUNA, WI - SWAPFEST

MANITOWOC, WI, LAKESHORE HAMFEST

OAK CREEK, WI - SMARC HAMFEST

RACINE, WI - RACINE HAMFEST

RHINELANDER, WI - NWARC SWAPFEST

ROCKFORD, IL - RARC HAMFEST

ROTHSCHILD, WI - WVRA HAMFEST

SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI - SMARC HAMFEST

STEVENS POINT, WI - CWRA SWAPFEST

WAUKESHA, WI - KMRA SWAPFEST

WAUKESHA, WI - MIDWINTER SWAPFEST

DUBUQUE, IA - HAMFEST

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

DUBUQUE, IA - ARRL/VEC

Dubuque Hamfest. Contact: Carl Clark, N0KAX, 2145 Delicia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. (319) 557-9149.

ROCKFORD/LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month.

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Contact: Rusty Cordell, WB9QYV, 1823 Hulin St., Rockford, IL 61102-2619. (815) 968-0080. e-mail WB9QYV@aol.com

DXpedition

Continued from front page

amateur bands from 10 meters through 160 meters.

Let's go!

The DXpedition formed as the operators (Rudy Verhoeven NF9V, John Meyer NZ9Z, and myself) met in Minneapolis, Minnesota from our respective Wisconsin homes of Milwaukee, Kellnersville, and Oconomowoc. From Minneapolis, we flew to Palau (formerly Belau - Western Caroline Islands - KC6 prefix) via Tokyo-Narita, Guam, and Yap (Eastern Carolines - Micronesia).

Are we there yet?

We were extremely pleased (and impressed) with how well things were going. Not only was every flight on schedule, but we arrived to find our luggage had all arrived safely at the proper destination. Luggage/radio/amplifier unpacking/inspection revealed we had successfully transported in excess of 230 kg of sensitive electronic equipment with neither incident nor damage.

Just prior to final landing approach on Palau, we were treated to a surprise fly-by of Palau by our 727 commercial flight crew (whose identity shall remain anonymous to prevent them from getting reprimanded for providing outstanding service). Without our asking, one of the flight attendants (whose home was Palau), asked the captain (pilot) to show us an aerial tour of Palau prior to landing. As the captain positioned the airplane to provide us spectacular views, I vigorously exercised my 35mm camera to capture some of the spectacular beauty of this fascinating archipelago of over 360 islands. One of the photos is at the top of this page.

Upon arrival at Palau, we were immediately stunned by the intense sauna-like heat and humidity of this tropical island. It was 35 degrees C and humid (December is their cool season!). As I removed the protective cap from my camera lens outside to shoot the airplane, the lens immediately and completely steamed to zero visibility!

Troubled bridge over K-B waters

At the airport, we telephoned the request for our shuttle service from the airport to our hotel. Soon after leaving the airport, we saw the collapsed Koror-Babeldoab (K-B) bridge, the fate of which was well described in the "Disaster on Palau," *The DX Magazine*, volume 09, issue 05, Sept./Oct. 1997. The K-B bridge, which had once linked these two islands, is now temporarily serviced by a pontoon-supported bridge to retain the lifeline link as permanent replacement of the K-B bridge is pending.



Let's get ready to rumble!

We set up both stations and had time between the frequent intense rain bursts to erect a simple wire 40 meter dipole before sunset to get one barefooted station on the air. We made the first T88II QSO at 06-December-98 at 09:19 UTC with JA7IIL.

Palauan power (How not to wire your own installation)

The new pre-wired 234V alternating current (AC) outlets we had placed in the hotel-rooms had been improperly terminated with 117V rated receptacles! And a voltmeter check of the line-to-ground voltages on the 3-wire 117v outlets revealed reversed hot and neutral conductors (on all 117V outlets at the hotel) with a floating ground! Further electrical pre-inspection revealed fully exposed crimp-type connectors on the energized 234V hotel service entrance feeds atop the hotel roof within easy grabbing reach of unsuspecting people! Extreme caution had to be exercised at all times since safe and/or National Electrical Code compliant systems were not commonplace in Palau.

Further, when the electrician arrived to replace the 234V (117V rated) receptacle with one of the proper voltage and current rating, he did so without first de-energizing the circuit! When I expressed concern to him about this practice, he casually informed me that he regularly works using such practices. I waited/watched in horror as he successfully completed the work without incident.

We then asked the electrician to properly ground the floating 117V receptacle ground in attempt to prevent

Please turn to page 15



We've Got Mail!

Quiz winner says "thanks!"

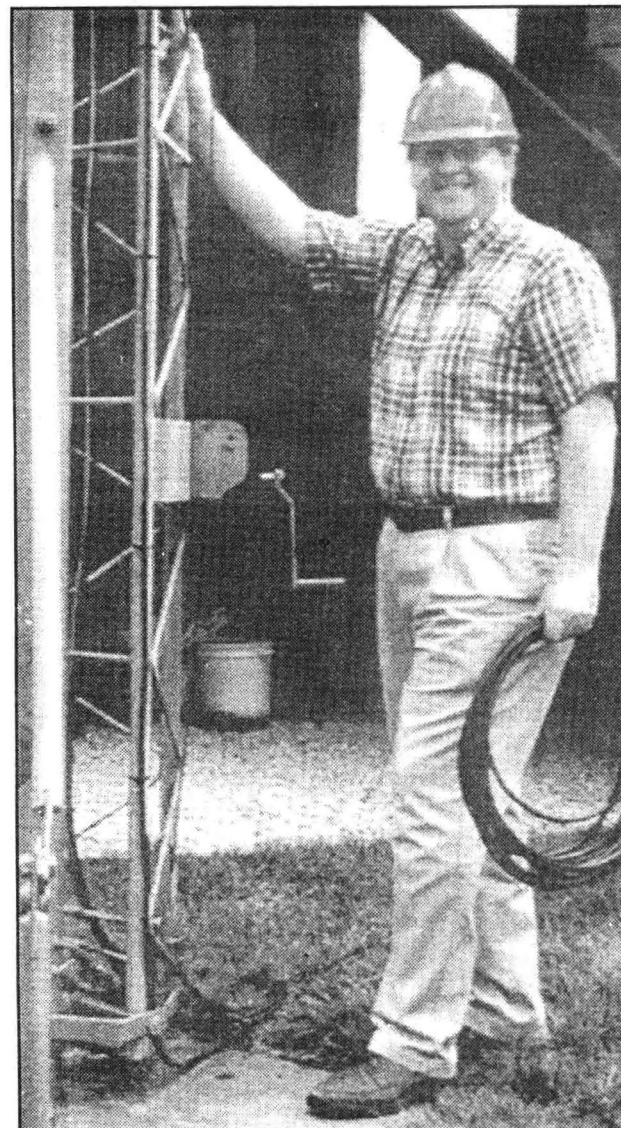
Hi, Jim:

Just thought I would drop you a quick email to let you know thanks for the winner's package for the recent Badger State Signals contest (The BSSS Quiz in our December issue - ed.). Some of the questions made even a 40-year amateur think a bit. I wanted to let you know, Jim, that I applied the MFJ gift certificate towards a Vectronics VEC-221K CW Memory Keyer kit. I called them at MFJ and they said that the certificate could be put towards anything in the MFJ catalog. Being a CW man, I thought the memory keyer kit would come in handy for contesting. In addition, I am the trustee of K9MOT here at Motorola so it will get a workout at this year's Field Day event.

Under separate cover, Jim, I am sending you a picture of me standing by my tower (below). The photo was taken last July after a buddy of mine and me did about 3 days of rework to antennas, transmission lines and hardware on the tower. It was a major rework but with the sunspot cycle heading upward there was no choice.

The contest was great and I wish you continued success with contests in the future. Contests that make you look things up in the handbook or old QSTs is a great way to stretch the ol' brain.

73, Don Backys, K9UQN, Hoffman Estates IL



As noted in his letter, Don won the December 1998 BSSS Quiz. He received \$20, a \$25 MFJ gift certificate, and a photo taken on the moon during one of the EVAs on the Apollo 11 mission in July, 1969. The next BSSS quiz will be printed in our March 1999 issue. This time, we will also accept email entries. Entries will be taken only from current BSSS subscribers. Don's subscription

SEWFARS SWAPFEST

HAMRADIOS COMPUTERS ELECTRONICS

SUNDAY March 7, 1999

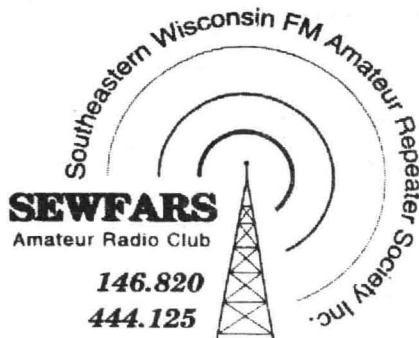
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

SET-UP STARTS AT 6:00 AM
WAUKESHA COUNTY EXPO CENTER
WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN

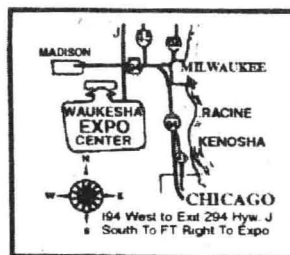
ADMISSION \$4.00 ADVANCE - \$5.00 AT DOOR
RESERVED TABLES PER 4 ft. \$5.00 - \$7.00 AT DOOR
ELECTRICAL OUTLET \$5.00
AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS FEB. 15, 1999 order early!

Mail with S.A.S.E. - Make Check Payable to SEWFARS Inc. Mail to P.O. Box 102 Delafield, WI 53018
For more information Phone (414) 835-7035



TALK IN 146.820 - PL 127.3



Anniversary

Continued from front page

(now K4FW) had their first QSO. They were to continue holding these contacts throughout their lifetimes each year on November 17 at 1530 UTC for the next 74 years.

Then came their big day: On November 17, 1998 at 1530 UTC, they had their 75th year QSO. Al and Bob celebrated 75 years of ham friendship and QSOs, with the exception of WW II, when no one was allowed to transmit on any frequencies.

Al Kahn went on to become president of Electro-

WW contest. Al is a recipient of QCWA Honor Roll award. He's a member of the ARRL, QCWA #985, OOTC (Old Old Timers Club) #813, and FOC #498. Al is now enjoying retirement, living along a beautiful lake in Cassopolis, MI.

Bob, W9NN, went on to be Engineering Supervisor at WGN in Chicago, and retired after 36 years of service. Bob is a co-founder of W9DXCC (an annual event for DXers in the 9th call area). He is on the Honor Roll of the QCWA for outstanding service and is one of the five original Charter members. He is a member of the ARRL, OOTC #462, FOC #1162, and QCWA #52. Bob is now enjoying his retirement along the beautiful Wisconsin River at Plover, Wisconsin.

Both Al and Bon are still active on all bands, and both are outstanding CW operators. □

AMATEUR AUCTION!

February 23, 1999 • 7 P.M.

**American Legion Post 53
634 Water Street
Eau Claire, Wisconsin**

Call-in frequency: 146.01/61 MHz

DOORS OPEN AT 6 P.M.

ADMISSION: \$3.00, OR PAID 1999 RCRA SUPPORT

**Sell Your Gear • Mark all Items!
Club Retains 10% of all sales**

COFFEE AND SNACKS

Not responsible for any loss!

COL. BRUCE WALTHER, W9QAH, AUCTIONEER

Proceeds to the Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

For more information, contact Steve Hart, KA9OMC
E616 810th Avenue, Knapp, WI 54749
(715) 665-2374



CLYDE "COFFEE" DOWNING, W9HSY

President of the Madison Area Repeater Association for 17 years, a legendary Madison DJ at WISM/1480 and other stations, and a general all-around "good skate".

Gone ten years, but never forgotten.

Born March 7, 1922

Died February 17, 1989

Photo by Tom Kelly, WA9OMO

For less than the cost of a sandwich and a drink, enjoy a full year of all the news of ham radio in Wisconsin and the nation! Please use the form below.

Silent Keys

Edward F. Willie, W9PWG, died peacefully at home Thursday, January 14, 1999, age 74. Ed was in World War II Navy, President of Sound and Video Service Inc., active Volunteer Examiner, and longtime member and past President of Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club. He especially enjoyed working friends on 2 and 10 meters. His sense of humor will be especially missed.

Robert E. Hetzel, W9VQG, of South Milwaukee, passed away January 14, 1999, at the age of 78 years.

Information from Rich Regent, K9GDF

BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS

**Subscription Form
Regular Individual Subscription Rates**

1 Year: \$13.95 • 2 Years: \$25.95 (save \$1.95) • 3 Years: \$37.95 (save \$3.90)

PLEASE PRINT!

Name: _____ Call Sign (if any): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

☐ 1 Year ☐ 2 Years ☐ 3 Years ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Send this form, with your check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901.

Please do NOT send cash!

FEBRUARY 1999

Corner

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Port Washington, WI 53074-9654
(414) 284-9346
WB9RQR @ N9PBY.EN63BI.WI.USA.NA
SKAPLAN @ MCW.EDU



No. 63: Cache as Cache Can

What is all this stuff about caches? Well, the word comes from the French word *cache*, which means to hide, and a dictionary definition says it is a place for hiding or storing anything. In the computer world, a cache is a buffer or holding place, but a holding place with some intelligence. For example, data flowing between the faster Central Processing Unit (CPU) and slower peripherals (either way) is watched. That data *that is accessed most often is placed in the cache. How is the data to be cached selected?* By an intelligent mathematical algorithm (set of formulas), which actually scoops out copies of data from the rivers of data flowing past.

Well, so what? What good does that do for a computer system? The answer is, it can significantly speed up how fast the computer system operates. For example, in memory caching, special fast memory chips keep copies of the most recent memory accesses. If the CPU asks for this data a second time, it is supplied by the super fast memory chips rather than the slower system memory (RAM). Get the general picture?

Here is an analogy. Suppose you, Dick and I are sitting in a room full of phone books from every city in the US. You ask me to read you all the names and phone numbers. I begin, taking book after book from the pile, and reading at a rate of 10,000 names and numbers per second (please allow that this speed is possible!). Meanwhile, Dick takes a wild but educated guess that you might later be interested in names beginning with the letter Q, and phone numbers starting with any digit followed by 89 (as in 789-1234). Therefore, Dick records each name and phone number fitting either criterion in a notebook; he is very fast and can do that three times the speed at which I read. After a bit over 100 hours, we are done.

Next, as Dick partially guessed, you ask me to give you both the full name and phone number of each person whose name begins with Q, and whose phone number begins with 989. Normally, I would have to look through every phone book again to find the data. However, Dick pipes up, and says he already has the data written down. Indeed, he does - all names beginning with Q and all numbers starting with 189, 289, 389, 989. Dick actually has more data than you requested, but for sure he has everything you want among it. Dick has a 100% hit rate, and he only has to look through his written notes to find it, rather than each and every phone book. On top of all that, Dick is 33% faster than I am at finding and calling out the data. Dick and his notebook represent a very efficient, very fast cache.

Now the neat thing is that some CPUs, starting from the 486 chip, have a memory

(depending on the particular model of 486 CPU), and the engineers designed it so well that it has a "hit" ratio of between 90 and 95%. That means that between 90 and 95% of the data it copies from the river of data going by is asked for a second time, and therefore supplied by the very fast cache!

Let's explore why this is important in a little more depth. Ordinary RAM (30 or 72 pin SIMMs, for example) is plugged directly into the motherboard. Since the memory chips on these SIMMs must both receive and transfer data through the motherboard, they can operate only at the speed of the motherboard. The CPU, on the other hand, is often running at some multiple of the speed of the motherboard. For example, a 333 MHz Pentium II CPU chip runs at 333 MHz, but its motherboard runs at only 66 MHz, one-fifth the speed of the CPU. Therefore, if the CPU needs data from the SIMMs, it has to wait around for it to be delivered through the more slowly operating motherboard. On the other hand, that CPU's L1 cache (which is right inside the CPU itself) can also run at or near 333 MHz. Therefore, the CPU doesn't have to wait around if the data is in the L1 cache. L1 cache memory is the only memory that can keep up with the speed of the CPU in all but the latest computers.

Most 486 systems incorporate a small amount of very high speed (and very expensive) memory on the motherboard known as L2 cache which can help to speed things up, too. However, because it is on the motherboard it cannot outperform the L1 cache. Furthermore, there is a cost/benefit ratio to be considered. Author (1) Scott Mueller suggests that you install the middle amount of L2 cache your computer can accept. Thus, for a machine, which can take up to, 128 kb of L2 cache, installation of 64 kb would probably give you the best bang for your buck.

The latest Pentium chips have taken us to a new height in memory caching. They incorporate the Level 2 cache right inside the same chip as the CPU. That is, the L2 cache is a separate die (chip), but it is enclosed within the CPU package and can therefore be made to run at speeds up to that of the CPU itself. Chipmakers are exploring new vistas in memory design even as you read this. Look for new announcements within months concerning the way memory is designed and packaged.

Indeed, things are moving so fast that I feel compelled to make a new prediction. Look for talk of a fully functional computer on a chip. It will come in a 4 x 4-inch box with the single chip inside. The rest of the little box's space will be taken up with sockets - one for a monitor, one for a mouse/microphone/keyboard, one for a power cord and one for any other peripheral or combination of peripherals you might care to plug in. The step after that will be disappearance of the plugs, as the unit becomes totally wireless and battery powered. Following that, the unit will need no manual input at all. It will tune to your brain waves and respond to your thoughts.

Happy computing!

(1) Mueller, Scott, *Upgrading and Repairing PCs, 10th edition. ISBN 0-7897-1636-4. Que Corporation. This is the best general book on PCs available today; a must have if you wish to learn about computer hardware and how it is all put together. This edition was published in September 1998.*

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KAP'S KOLUMN

(Special version for the gang in Wisconsin, including some words about this newspaper)

By Jordan Kaplan, W9QKE
York Radio Club writer • Northbrook IL

I want all of you to pay attention to the words on this page. These words affect your interest in Amateur Radio. These words should get your blood boiling. These words, I trust, will be the "wake up call" to get you to not only think about the future, but I hope to get you to talk about it. These words should make you develop a plan, or at the very least a dialog among your fellow licensees, be they Novice or Extra class.

You have read my comments from time to time regarding the status of Amateur Radio in the world. I have discussed over the years the continuing decline in our numbers. I have pointed out the average age of licensees is now around 57 years. I have commented on the reduced memberships in repeater groups all over this nation. The membership of radio clubs is also dropping. Subscriptions to the popular magazines have dropped 20% to 40%. Advertising has been reduced or in some cases dropped.

The competition for one's time has reached the critical point. With only 24 hours in a day, the time remaining for operating Amateur Radio has shrunk. The InterNet, Cell Phones, Pagers, Cable Television, Digital Direct Television, Rental Movies, Surround Sound, Music CDs, Community Activities, Religious Activities, Digital Photography, Eating and Sleeping, and on and on. Oh yes, left out is the fact that most of us have to work for a living, and even those who are retired seem to not be able to do all the things they want to do in those 24 hours.

The next year or so will be critical in the survival of this great activity of ours. You will begin to see a further reduction in companies devoted to Amateur Radio. Some will close their doors. Some will drop the amateur line in favor of more consumer products, some will sell out to another company in lieu of closing up shop. The number of new high tech HF boxes introduced will drop due in part to the poor sales of this type of gear. The single bright light is still VHF and UHF activity. The next 24 months will see more consolidations of equipment makers.

The major magazine publishers are struggling to keep printing their monthly issues. The number of pages in all these magazines will be cut to reflect the loss of advertising. Perhaps the sunspot cycle return will help stir up some HF sales. One can work more DX on the InterNet than on 15 and 20 and do it 24 hours a day, sunspots or not.

The FCC proposal to restructure the service is not helping so far. The comments (see the FCC URL) are pretty much down the line of "make changes but don't mess with me or my money machine". The magazines are not for any major changes; the more license classes, the more tapes, manuals, and other instructional materials can be printed and sold and the more videotapes made and sold. Those who sell educational products do not want any changes. Manufacturers want to make it simple. Turn the service into a consumer product operation so that products can be sold in Wal-Mart and

Radio Shack, just as CD players, TV, and VCR items are sold. Have a few spare bucks, buy the boxes, plug everything together, and be a radio broadcaster. After all then, you will not have to pay the cable company or the cell phone provider each month.

Whatever happens to the FCC proposal, the salvation of our service is up to each and every one of us. We have heard the old saying that in numbers there is strength. That is even more important to us at this time in our history. We must look to the future by following the leads of some of the major radio clubs who, by getting the membership involved, and adopting strong programs to enlist the younger members of the community into Amateur Radio are growing in numbers. Club activities geared to take advantage of all aspects of Amateur Radio operation should be undertaken at once. Set a goal of increasing new members from the grammar school and high school age groups.

Most important! At your club's next meeting check, to make sure that everyone is aware of the importance of the BSSS in providing news of amateur activity. This monthly publication is unique in the USA, since it provides a source of information not available in the ham magazines or, for that matter, in news from ARRL via the printed word or voice. This jewel from Wisconsin is brought to you by a dedicated group of hams just like you, who feel that with information there is strength. The BSSS does not cost; it pays you in the form of knowledge that is only available in this format. Set a club meeting program devoted to this topic. Talk it over. Input your thoughts to your fellow club members. Set realistic goals for membership and expanding your horizons in radio communications. Get members who have developed a specialty in communications to talk about it at a club meeting. Have a Show and Tell night every other month. Let other members enlarge their knowledge of what other interests there are besides talking on the repeater.

Don't sit still and watch Amateur Radio do a disappearing act. Do your part now for the future of Amateur Radio, or there may not be a future.

Kap, W9QKE,
via data link and the InterNet



VARI-NOTCH® DUPLEXERS FOR 2 METERS

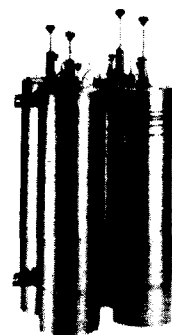
The TX RX Systems Inc. patented Vari-Notch filter circuit, a pseudo-bandpass design, provides low loss, high TX to RX, and between-channel isolation, excellent for amateur band applications. TX RX Systems Inc. has been manufacturing multicoupling systems since 1976. Other models available for 220 and 440 MHz, UHF ATV and 1.2 GHz.

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19" RACK MOUNT

QSO Party

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P.O. Box 1073 • Milwaukee WI 53221
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Wisconsin QSO Party Winner

On behalf of the West Allis Radio Amateur Club Wisconsin QSO Party Committee, Lynn Tamblin, K9KR, left, presents the "top dog" plaque to the 1998 Wisconsin winner of the WQP, Chad Kurszewski, of Bristol, Wisconsin. WARAC also sponsors the Mid-Winter Swapfest each January, awards scholarships annually through the Foundation for Amateur Radio, and operates special event station W9C from the circus show-grounds in Milwaukee.

Photo courtesy Lynn Tamblin/K9KR



The 1999 Wisconsin QSO Party (WQP) is scheduled to begin at 12 noon CST (1800Z) **Sunday, March 14, 1999**, and will run till 7 p.m. (0100Z March 15). The annual 7 hour event is sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club (WARAC). WQP is an opportunity to work some of the "rare" Wisconsin counties, due to the many mobiles that take to Wisconsin highways, to operate from "rare" counties, OR to operate from as many counties as they can during the 7 hours.

As in past years, WARAC will again be issuing an award for the **HIGHEST SINGLE OPERATOR** score, in the form of a plaque and a taste of Wisconsin (cheese). This award will be presented to the **TOP** single operator score from Wisconsin AND the **TOP** single operator score from outside of Wisconsin. Last year, our winners were WE9V from Wisconsin and K9OM from Illinois. The other awards listed on the entry form, will also be presented to participants, as in past years.

We are known nationwide as one of the best QSO parties going. The annual Wisconsin QSO Party is a seven-hour-long "sprint." Serious contesters, casual operators, county hunters, and everyone in between, will find fun in this one. It's open to hams of all license classes and it offers those interested in getting the "feel" of contesting an enjoyable way to get their feet wet. Even those amateurs who don't usually operate in contests will find fun here, especially if they are in one of the more rare Wisconsin counties. If you are in the "casual" operator category, pop into the contest for an hour or so. You might be surprised how much fun it really is.

When operating, please listen for the weaker signals. They will probably be the mobile stations working hard to provide the rare counties OR the out-of-state stations on one of the higher frequency bands. Wisconsin stations be sure to call CQ on the higher freq bands to enable the out-of-state stations to fully participate, BOTH on phone and CW.

The entry/rules forms are available on our website:

www.execpc.com/WARAC

The website also has a suggested list of abbreviations, past years results AND a downloadable software program, written by Glen, WA1UJU, specifically for WQP, if you want to use it for logging. If you do not have access to the internet, you can send a request for the above items to our post office box - WARAC WQP, P.O. Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

Remember that **ALL ENTRIES** need to be postmarked no later than March 31, 1999. No late entries. Results will only be available on our website, OR with an **SASE** included with your entry (for those without internet capability). (BSSS editor's note: Please do not ask us for results. However, stories and photos are invited and welcome.)

See you Sunday March 14, 1999.

For WARAC:

Lynn Tamblin, K9KR, Chairman WQP
email - k9kr@tcccom.net
packet - K9KR@WA9KEC.WI

WISCONSIN COUNTIES			STATES		PROVINCES
ADA Adams	IOW Iowa	POL Polk	AL Alabama	MT Montana	ALB Alberta
ASH Ashland	IRO Iron	POR Portage	AK Alaska	NE Nebraska	BC British Columbia
BAR Barron	JAC Jackson	PRI Price	AZ Arizona	NV Nevada	LAB Labrador
BAY Bayfield	JEF Jefferson	RAC Racine	AR Arkansas	NH New Hampshire	MAN Manitoba
BRO Brown	JUN Juneau	RIC Richland	CA California	NJ New Jersey	NB New Brunswick
BUF Buffalo	KEN Kenosha	ROC Rock	CO Colorado	NM New Mexico	NEW Newfoundland
BUR Burnett	KEW Kewaunee	RUS Rusk	CT Connecticut	NY New York	NWT Northwest Territory
CAL Calumet	LAC La Crosse	SAU Sauk	DE Delaware	NC North Carolina	NS Nova Scotia
CHI Chippewa	LAY Lafayette	SAW Sawyer	FL Florida	ND North Dakota	ONT Ontario
CLA Clark	LAN Langlade	SHA Shawano	GA Georgia	OH Ohio	PEI Prince Edward Island
COL Columbia	LIN Lincoln	SHE Sheboygan	HI Hawaii	OK Oklahoma	QUE Quebec
CRA Crawford	MAN Manitowoc	STC St Croix	IA Iowa	OR Oregon	SAS Saskatchewan
DAN Dane	MAR Marathon	TAY Taylor	ID Idaho	PA Pennsylvania	YT Yukon Territory
DOD Dodge	MRN Marinette	TRE Trempealeau	IL Illinois	RI Rhode Island	
DOO Door	MRQ Marquette	VER Vernon	IN Indiana	SC South Carolina	
DOU Douglas	MEN Menominee	VIL Vilas	KS Kansas	SD South Dakota	
DUN Dunn	MIL Milwaukee	WAL Walworth	KY Kentucky	TN Tennessee	
EAU Eau Claire	MON Monroe	WSB Washburn	LA Louisiana	TX Texas	
FLO Florence	OCO Oconto	WAS Washington	MD Maryland/ (D.C.)	UT Utah	
FON Fond du Lac	ONE Oneida	WAU Waukesha	MA Massachusetts	VT Vermont	
FOR Forest	OUT Outagamie	WAP Waupaca	ME Maine	VA Virginia	
GRA Grant	OZA Ozaukee	WSR Waushara	MI Michigan	WA Washington	
GRE Green	PEP Pepin	WIN Winnebago	MN Minnesota	WV West Virginia	
GRL Green Lake	PIE Pierce	WOO Wood	MS Mississippi	WI Wisconsin	
			MO Missouri	WY Wyoming	



1999 WISCONSIN QSO PARTY RULES

Sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc.

P. O. Box 1072 • Milwaukee, WI 53201

www.execpc.com/WARAC

DATE/TIME:

1800Z MARCH 14 - 0100Z MARCH 15, 1999

MODES:

CW and Phone. All stations may be worked once per mode on each band. In addition, mobiles may be worked once per mode per Wisconsin county that they operate from. Mobiles cannot sit on a county line.

ENTRY CLASSES:

Single Operator Fixed	Multi Operator Fixed	Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Fixed
Single Operator Mobile	Multi Operator Mobile	Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Mobile
Single Operator Novice	Multi Operator Novice	Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Novice
Single Operator Tech	Multi Operator Tech	Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Tech

EXCHANGE:

Wisconsin stations send county. Non-Wisconsin stations send state or province or country.

SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES:

CW: 3550, 3705, 7050, 7125, 14050, 15M CW, 10M CW, 6M CW, 2M CW ** Suggested **
Phone: 3890, 7230, 14290, 21350, 28400, 6M SSB & FM, 2M SSB & FM Others may be used.

SCORING:

Phone contacts count 1 QSO Point; CW contacts count 2 QSO Points. No Repeater QSOs.

WISCONSIN STATIONS: Multiply the sum of QSO points by the sum of Wisconsin counties (max. 72), plus states (max. 50) plus Canadian provinces (max. 13) worked. Note: DX countries worked count for QSO points but not as multipliers.

NON-WISCONSIN STATIONS: Multiply the sum of QSO points by the number of Wisconsin counties worked (max. 72).

BONUS:

WISCONSIN MOBILES/PORTABLES: Add 500 bonus points for each county that you operate from, outside your home county, with a minimum of 12 QSOs per county to qualify.

LOGS:

Entries must contain a log consisting of: Time (GMT), call, band, state/province, Wisconsin county, mode and a complete Score Summary including YOUR name, address and call. Circle new multipliers as worked. Logs containing more than 200 QSOs must be accompanied by a dupe sheet (separate dupe sheet for each mode). Mobile entries must indicate county changes in log. Please use an official Wisconsin QSO Party entry form, available from our Web page. Entries must be postmarked by **March 31, 1999** and sent to:

WISCONSIN QSO PARTY
WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB
P. O. BOX 1072
MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

AWARDS:

WISCONSIN: Awards will be presented to the following:

- Highest single operator score in the QSO Party.
- 10 highest single operator scores in each entry class.
- Highest multi-operator score in each entry class.
- Highest aggregate club score (club member stations to be located within 50 miles of the club, except for mobiles).

NON-WISCONSIN: Awards will be presented to the following:

- Highest single operator score in the QSO Party.
- Highest single operator score in each single operator category in each state/province.

Activation Plan

W.E.M. EOC Radio Room (Hamshack) Activation Plan

In the event of a National or State emergency, the following W.E.M. EOC Radio Room (Hamshack) Activation Plan will be implemented upon the request of the Administrator Wisconsin Emergency Management or the W.E.M. Duty Officer.

1. The hamshack callsign is WC9AAG.
2. The hamshack will be manned by ARES\RACES\MARS volunteers. HF radio operator support for the Wisconsin National Guard will be coordinated through the W.E.M. Communications and Warning Officer.
3. Initially HF frequency 07.277 MHz LSB will be monitored during the period 1200Z thru 2400Z.
4. Initially HF frequency 03.993.5 MHz LSB will be monitored during the period 2400Z thru 1200Z.
5. PACTOR will be available, as needed, on HF frequency 03.584 MHz USB.
6. VHF full time packet (wc9aag@wc9aag.en53ja.wi.us.na) MSYS BBS is available on the ARES\RACES packet network frequency 145.610 MHz. Node is ARWEM.
7. VHF voice will be on the Madison Area Repeater Association 147.150 MHz (PL123.0) repeater, linked (if needed) to the Milwaukee MAARS 145.130 MHz (PL127.3) repeater.
8. UHF\6M voice will be on the Southern Wisconsin Repeater Group (443.400\443.675\53.090) and the UHF Backbone Network.
9. Emergency bulletins, frequency updates, situation reports, etc., will be disseminated using the Badger Emergency Net (BEN) on 03.985 MHz LSB, if it is activated.
10. E-mail will be utilized, when available. Hamshack e-mail address: races@dma.state.wi.us.

communications plan in place

In the event of an unanticipated failure of normal communication resources, it seems advisable to have a reference document for hams to use in order to establish initial emergency communications with the State EOC in Wisconsin. Hams are encouraged to participate in the Badger Emergency Net (BEN) each day at noon on 03.985 MHz LSB and to join their local ARES\RACES\MARS organizations in order to provide an organized and trained response for their communities. (The plan is printed at left.)

Mack, N9NTB

11. The hamshack telephone number is 1-608-242-3323 (with Voice Mail), if operational.
12. HF voice frequencies will be adjusted for changing band conditions.
13. For additional RACES information, contact the State RACES Officer William Kimble, WA9OAY, at 1-920-261-7107.
14. For additional ARES information, contact the WI ARRL SEC Dr. Stanley Kaplan, WB9RQR, at e-mail address: skaplan@mcw.edu or telephone 1-414-284-9346.
15. For general WEM EOC hamshack information, send an inquiry to the hamshack e-mail address or call the hamshack telephone number. Check the W.E.M. internet web page URL: <http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dma/wem/index.htm>.
16. Air Force MARS point of contact is Phillip Rebensburg, AFA3FM\AFF3WI\KC9CI, e-mail address: phillipr@execpc.com; telephone number: 1-414-251-6250.
17. Army MARS point of contact is Gustov Bonow, AAR5BS\W9IHW, e-mail address: bmsmarswi@wctc.net; telephone number: 1-715-887-3962.
18. W.E.M. point of contact is Alan Wohlferd, Communications and Warning Officer, e-mail address is wohlfa@dma.state.wi.us or telephone 1-608-242-3250.

(Current as of 11 Jan 99)



OFFICIAL SCORE SUMMARY SHEET

1999 WISCONSIN QSO PARTY

Sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc.

P. O. Box 1072 • Milwaukee, WI 53201

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip _____

Home WI County _____ Club Affiliation _____

ENTRY CLASS

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single OP Fixed | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi OP Fixed | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Multi Fixed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single OP Mobile | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi OP Mobile | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Multi Mobile |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single OP Novice | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi OP Novice | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Multi Novice |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single OP Tech | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi OP Tech | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Multi Tech |

WI Counties Worked From _____

SCORING

CW QSOs _____ x 2 = _____ CW Points

Phone QSOs _____ x 1 = _____ Phone Points

Sum of CW + Phone Points = _____ QSO Points

Number of Multipliers = _____ Multipliers

Wis. Counties (Max. 72) _____

States (Max. 50) _____

Provinces (Max. 13) _____

QSO Points x Multipliers = _____ Points

Bonus Points = _____ Points

Final Score = _____ Points

ALL OPERATORS must sign - CLEARLY - including callsign - I have followed the 1999 WIQP RULES:

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

All entries must be sent to: 1999 WISCONSIN QSO PARTY, WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, P. O. BOX 1072, MILWAUKEE, WI 53201, postmarked no later than March 31, 1999. The Wisconsin QSO Party Rules Committee may disqualify late entries and/or those entries with QSO Party Rules violations. Results will be available on the internet at www.execpc.com/WARAC (capitalize WARAC) - OR - by submitting an SASE with entry.

Hams respond as killer tornadoes rake South

Hams in Tennessee and Arkansas responded as unusual tornadoes threatened, then struck, this week. The death toll from the freak storms stood at 16 as of January 22, and losses were expected to top \$1 billion. A call went out January 22 for additional ham radio volunteers to assist emergency operations in Tennessee in the storms' wake.

Tornadoes in the Jackson, Tennessee, area January 17 killed eight people. Another eight died when tornadoes struck in the vicinity of Little Rock and White County, Arkansas, January 21. The National Weather Service called it "an unprecedented outbreak of tornadoes for January."

Arkansas Section Manager Roger Gray, N5QS, in Searcy, reports he was up all night and observed four or five funnel clouds, but he estimated that at least 30 tornadoes swept through the area. Gray has been actively managing the ARES operation. "We have had an incredible response from the amateur community," he said. He estimated that up to 60 hams were active on VHF and HF nets. "We have been running nets almost continuously since 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon and no end in sight," he added.

One problem, he said, was that access to the badly-damaged town of Beebe was ex-

Please turn to page 13

Minnesota QSO Party

1800 UTC 06 February to
0600 UTC 07 February
1999

Primary sponsor: Twin
City FM Club

Details at:
<http://www.rossiya.net>

Icebreaker "Glacier": Part 2

By Sherm Carr, W9NGT

This is the second part in a series of the personal log of Sherm Carr, W9NGT, who sailed from Australia to Oregon aboard the Coast Guard's icebreaker "Glacier". His son, Mike, was posted to that ship, and Sherm and son sailed together on her voyage to decommissioning in Astoria, Oregon.

1400 - 14 March

The second day underway and again, weather is sunny and breezy, with some white water on a dark blue sea. Glacier moves with a long slow sedate roll in the always present ground swell. We are back on course 010 for a point off the Northeast coast of Australia, where the base course will be 046 for Maui, 13 days away. Son Mike has the 0800 to 1200 bridge watch, so I visited some, between periods of monitoring 20 meters.

The crew's mess deck is a great place at break time, (1000) and a lot of fun. The morale of the crew is fantastic. Not too many are aware that this will be Glacier's last transit. The crew asks about phone patches, and I explain about propagation and "On the job training." With Chief Parsons working on the antenna situation, things should happen soon.

I visited the ship's weather department, and found a completely equipped meteorology facility with electronically reproduced maps, synops, forecast procedures, the works. All via satellite, it is a class operation. In the Southern Hemisphere, weather systems are reversed, but I am the only one confused.

Son Mike informs me of the plan to cross the Equator and the International Date Line simultaneously at Sidereal Noon on 22 March, the Vernal Equinox. There is no doubt in my mind that it will happen. The ship has an incredibly accurate high tech navigation system using satellites, tied to the automatic pilot by the navigation computer that updates and reads out the ship's position within a hundred feet or so, every five seconds. It also reads out course and speed, drift and set, plus time and distance to destination. Regardless of wind and seas, Glacier's wake is straight as an arrow.

Hamshack monitoring indicates very sporadic propagation. Mike Parsons is checking cable routing to make sure the starboard bridge wing antenna is clear for our use. He said he wanted to make sure we didn't get inadvertently zapped with 5 kW when they talk to Honolulu. Tomorrow we run some tests with KH6GNJ to see if we are heard on the West Coast. Then Chief Mike will be set to make the antenna switch. I hear the Maritime Net, but just barely.

2200 - Still 14 March

Settled in, got the coordinates to plot friend Bill's map, and visited with son Mike. Didn't see him much today. Worked mostly with Chief Mike Parsons on the receive antenna situation. The 430-S shows an S-9 plus signal from .15 microvolt from the signal generator. As to man made noise, there just isn't any. Almost every wire aboard is in double shielded armored cable. The noise level is some 18 dB below the noise floor of any receiver.

Chief Parsons will switch antennas tomorrow, and we'll be in business. The propagation window still eludes me, but I suspect it will reveal itself when the 430-S can hear better.

0945 - 15 March

Was up early and in the shack by 0530. Data indicates, as of now, propagation to the States should be from about 0500 to 1000Z. Heard England, South Atlantic, Australia and the Maritime Net NCS in San Diego, all very weak. The S-meter just barely moves. Atmospherics are S-1 to S-2. If it were not for the exceptionally low noise level, I would not hear them at all. The starboard bridge wing antenna, I am told, will be available by about 1400, and then we'll know for sure.

We are on course 000 for our rumb line fix point. The ship rides easy, but rolling some. I keep forgetting to mention that ice breaker hull design, by necessity, pretty much resembles a fat cigar. Also, the bow is sloped back some distance. In actual ice breaking, the ship actually rides up on the ice pack and the weight of the ship crushes the ice. Originally, Glacier was fitted with anti-roll quarter keels, but they didn't stand up, so the idea was abandoned. As a result, the Glacier is a roller. The ground swell is stronger today, and always presages weather of some sort. The sun is getting higher at noon, and daily mean temperatures are slowly climbing.

As the ground swell foretold, I am told that we will be running through some rain squalls soon.

1330 - still 15 March

Time out for a short entry. My suspicions are confirmed. We are bombing in on the West Coast, verified by KH6GNJ, who relayed back to us. We indeed have an antenna problem, which Chief Mike Parsons will have corrected very soon. KH6GNJ advises that our West Coast stations have been looking for us. He filled them in on our problems, and assured them we would be in business soon.

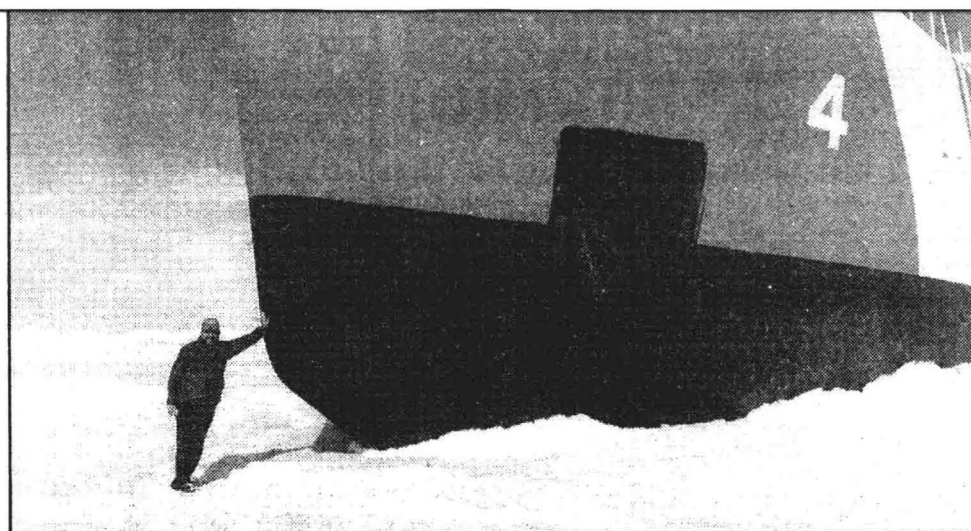
1630 - still 15 March

BINGO! The bridge wing antenna is up and making beautiful music! Good contact with the West Coast, but propagation folded about 1530. Tomorrow we go at it! We are a solid +10 to +20, and we hear somewhat less. I'll settle for that. It gives us a good 15 dB fade margin, which will be completely adequate for phone patch work.

Now it is time to get sign up sheets started. Lots of company in the shack. Everyone aboard was sweating out our receiving problem with us. Mike Parsons is as elated as I am. And, as suspected, the propagation window is almost four hours off from my data. It means we will be getting folks out of bed for phone patches, at least for a while.

2200 - still 15 March

Son Mike took a picture of a magnificent sunset from the port side, and took



An icebreaker doesn't plow through ice. Rather, the bow of the ship rides up on ice, and the ship's weight breaks the ice.

Photo courtesy Sherm Carr, W9NGT

another picture of a full moon from the starboard bridge wing a few minutes later. From sunset to dark happens in minutes in these latitudes. The moon lights up the ocean that constantly sparkles, yet one can easily see by starlight alone. This a rare privilege. I usually go on deck for a while at night, and visit with some of the crew. Also, I go up on the bridge when son Mike has the watch, and help him drive the "Big Red Canoe" as he calls it. I found the Glacier's "Supermarket" and located all the Coke machines. Also, I can report that coffee is available just about anywhere, once it got about that I was a coffee man. As I said before, Glacier has class. This came about because of monitoring propagation, involving periodic listening over several 24 hour periods. During said periods, coffee and doughnuts often appeared in the shack. To say that I am being well taken care of would be an understatement!

Settled in, Bill's plot duly recorded, and son Mike and I visited. He commented that I was a little easier to get along with, now that the antenna problem is solved. I guess I was getting a little impatient.

1030 - 16 March

We are in business! Checked into the Maritime Net and found the entire West Coast waiting for us. "Glacier" is the magic word. Briefed George, the NCS, and a bunch of waiting patch stations on our adventures with the recalcitrant antennas, and that we'll advise our schedule when propagation is nailed down, and we coordinate our schedule with Lt. Laurie Dowd and the OPS radio room.

Lots of contacts, including KB6GOZ aboard the USCG Cutter Midgett, up in the Bering sea. All signals were solid. Things are looking up!

1630 - still 16 March

After Quarters, (1230) made more contacts and ran a patch for one of the crew whose wife is expecting any day. It appears that, for now at least, our window will be from about 2300 to 0500Z. This is almost exactly four hours off from my data acquired last November. I spoke to Lt. Dowd, and she agreed to schedule OPS traffic to reflect our window. OPS radio and the hamshack are compatible only if we are at least 4 MHz apart.

Our operation is 20 meters, and OPS uses frequencies from 13 to 17 MHz. As we get closer to Hawaii, they will be moving down in frequency, so our scheduling will be easier. We'll get our four hours a day for sure. Son Mike stopped in -- he'd heard we were in business.

Today is cookout day (Sunday) on the flight deck. Steaks, burgers, huge hot dogs, salad, the works. As to food, one cannot handle three full meals a day. It's simply too much. I had a doughnut for breakfast, skipped lunch, and 'loaded up' at the cookout.

We are some 485 miles Northnortheast of Sydney, rumbling along at 13.6 knots. We sat on the fantail and talked, and watched the ocean go by for a while. The wind and seas have picked up considerably, with a lot of white water. The bow is throwing spray, evident even from the stern, Glacier is doing her usual slow, sedate roll. I may run out of words to describe this ship.

We reach our rumb line fix point at about 0530 tomorrow, and then a course change to 056 for 1070 miles. After that, the base course will be 046 for Maui. This was all set up back in Sydney to avoid detouring through the myriad of islands dotting the Pacific, and to make the simultaneous crossing mentioned previously. We will pass between the Santa Cruz and Solomon chains.

2200 - still 16 March

Settled in, got a Coke, plotted Bill's map, and will finish today's adventures. Two phone patch signup sheets are full and we "spring into action" tomorrow at 2300Z. OPS radio is holding traffic for five hours so we can get a good start. I am looking forward to earning my keep!

I forgot to mention that, back in Sydney, I had told son Mike that I was required to post my license in the shack, and could he find me a card and a marker pen? I forgot about it until Mike walked in with a plaque with my name and call engraved on a polished aluminum plate set in solid mahogany! To repeat, everything about this ship is class! I was absolutely delighted. Mike just grinned.

1330 - 17 March

Son Mike had the mid watch (0000-0400) so I had him wake me. Had a doughnut and coffee in the shack, but no propagation. OPS radio even lost Honolulu, which is rare indeed. With 500 kW at NPM, and 5 kW aboard, they have no need for S meters. Very disappointing. Heard nothing until about 1000. The window may not be quite pinned down yet.

Pete Jones, a Rating with the Aviation Detachment, spends much time with me, and knows the equipment far better than I. He volunteered to listen, and I went up forward for a while, and said some very nasty words.

The wind has changed and increased, the sun has gone behind gray, turbulent clouds and seas are building. The bow is throwing spray, with an occasional geyser

PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

Mark Heimmermann, KF9CS, Secretary
1523 E. Moonbeam Tr. • Appleton, WI 54915



MEETING MINUTES December 12, 1998

Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Gary Bargholz, at 12:58 p.m. It was held at Gulliver's Bar and Grill in Neenah.

Introduction of members and guests:

Mark Heimmermann	KF9CS
Bill Niemuth	KB9ENO
Bob Hajek	W9QBH
Virg Burmeister	WB9MHS
Steve Pelletier	KB9OAL
Randy Bullock	KB9SGO
Austin Kyser	KB9PCW
Mark Strand	KB9QXJ
Greg Schneider	W9IEI
Judy Schneider	N9PBM
John Schroeder	K9YXW
Kenneth Vandenberg	WB9TOZ
Jim Sheetz	K9OQO
Jeananne Bargholz	N9VSV
Gary Bargholz	N9UUR
Mike Hamman	KA9BHL
Richard Kosiorek	W9RIC

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. Bill, KB9ENO, made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the newsletter. The motion was seconded by Austin, KB9PCW, and approved by the members present.

Treasurer's report: The current account balance is \$2805.11. This includes payment of the December newsletter. The only outstanding expenses are for Nels' trip to Washington. The cost to W.A.R. is limited to \$500.00.

Newsletter report: Having the newsletter mailings processed by a business has allowed Ray to spend this extra effort on the newsletter and it shows. Ray feels guilty about having to pay for these services. The board and members present want to assure Ray it has their blessings and to thank him for the great job.

Coordinator's Report: No problems or questions on Dan's report as printed in the newsletter. Dan did have to mention he played 18 holes of golf last Thursday.

MACC/NFCC Report: Nels is in Washington, DC with his committee to discuss their rule. The hope is to adding wording to the FCC Part 97 requiring all amateur repeaters to be coordinated by an organization recognized by the FCC.

Chairman's Report:

Bulk email: The bulk emailer is working great. Gary requested the email address of any further W.A.R. members or supporters. The list of email address is confidential and is not published or distributed with the email.

New Forms for Coordination: Dan has developed two new "forms" for gathering information on New and Existing repeaters. One form outlines how to calculate and report a system's ERP, the other addresses Height Above Average Terrain (HAAT). The two forms give Dan the information he requires to work with the shorter spacing of co-repeater systems. The forms were distributed and discussed at the meeting. After the discussion Bill, KB9ENO, made a motion to use the new forms for all new and existing coordination of repeaters. The motion was seconded by Greg, W9IEI, and approved by all members present.

The new forms will be distributed in the March newsletter. Both of these forms can be downloaded from the WAR web site.

Close Spacing: Gary, N9UUR, presented a draft document outlining W.A.R.'s position on "Close Spacing". After long discussion John, K9YXW, entered a motion to "approve the concept of Close Spacing" and the general language of the document. The Concept of Close Spacing will be applied universally across the state. It was seconded by Mark, KB9QXJ, and approved by the members present.

Gary will fine tune the document and distribute it to the Board for review. After the Board's review the final version will be distributed via the membership E-mail list and be implemented.

Continued on page 11

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Kim Kunze, N9SDL, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output

Meeting Minutes January 5, 1999

Meeting was called to order by N9SDI, members present: N9NMH, N9IAB, N9MEA, KB9RXA, KB9FRB, KB9DZG, W9VHA, N9SDL, N9NQ, KB9MCZ, KB9RWW, and WD9CPY.

Minutes approved: N9NMH and N9MEA.

Treasurer's Report approved: N9SDL and N9NQ.

Upcoming Events

- Badger State Winter Games Feb. 6 and 7. For information or volunteering see Mike, N9IAB.

- Special Olympic Winter Games Feb. 20 and 21. For information or volunteering see Jack, N9LIA.

Both events will be in need of radio operators.

Old Business

Status of 6M repeater - (Mark, N9MEA). It is up and running. 52.89 MHz. We received a thank you letter from

the North Central Health Care Facility for the Christmas gift items we donated.

New Business

Greg, KB9MCZ, will chair the newly created Membership Committee with the help of Gary, WD9CPY.

Some ideas were discussed to publicize the WVRA Club:

Mike, N9IAB will talk to John Jordan at Channel 10 public access TV to see if we can have an acknowledgment to the club.

Other ideas: Creation of a Web page, a new brochure, use of local media Calendar of Events.

Adjournment: KB9RXA and N9MEA.

The program for the evening was discussion and explanation of activities that take place at the Badger State Winter Games and Special Olympic Winter Games winter events and how to prepare your equipment and yourself for operation in cold environments.

Respectfully submitted:
Kim Kunze,
N9SDL

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Art Evans, KA9KLZ, Secretary
213 N. Jefferson • Cuba City WI 53807-1558

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CST	Manager
BWN	Yes	3985	1300	0700	W9RCW
BEN	Yes	3985	1900	1300	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	0030	1830	WB9WHQ
WNN	Yes	3723	0100	1700	KB9OCZ
WSSN	Yes	3645	0130	1930	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0200	2000	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0500	2300	W9UW
RCRA	No	01/61 (Mondays CDT)	0130 (Menomonie Area)	1930	KA9OMC
Gr. Bay	No	72/12 (Green Bay Area)	0345	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	No	4.65/5.25 (South East/South Central Wisconsin)	0300	2100	
RACES	No	3993.5 (LSB Sunday)	1500	0900	WA9OAY

WNA On-the-Air meeting December 12, 1998

The meeting was called to order on 3985 kHz at 1840Z by Chairman Ron Tlachac. Propagation difficulties were encountered and the Chairman moved the meeting to 7265 kHz where conditions were much better.

WNA members and guests present were: W9UW, K9FHI, KA9KLZ, W9IHW, KE9VU, W9KKM, N9BDL, W9CBE, W9YCV, WB9WHQ, N9UAR, and KB9QPM.

The Chairman called for the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting as published in BSSS. A motion was made and seconded (K9FHI/N9UAR) to approve the minutes as published. Motion carried.

The Chairman then called for the WNA Treasurer's report. Treasurer Gene Santowski, K9UTQ, was not present. K9UTQ later submitted the following report for publication:

Balance on hand 8/23/98 \$328.87

Income 00.00
Expense 15.06

Balance on hand 12/12/98 \$313.81

There was no income. Expenses were filing fee for Wisconsin Non-profit report and secretary's postage expense.

ARRL Officials Reports

SECTION MANAGER: SM Roy Pedersen, K9FHI, stated that more participation is needed in Wisconsin nets, including Ninth Region nets. Roy also reported that there will be a new Section Emergency Coordinator January 1st. The new SEC is Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR. Roy stated that everyone should have a copy of the ARRL numbered radiograms. If anyone needs a copy of them, contact Roy. Roy stated that he will resign as Section Manager effective July 1st.

SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR: SEC John Leekly, WB9SMM, was not present. K9FHI reported that the new SEC, Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, who will take office on January 1st, is up to speed and will do a fine job.

SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER: STM Art Evans also stated that more net participation is needed. Participation and traffic is fairly steady and could use more SAR and PSHR reports. Art stated that he will step down from the STM position in April and will be looking for a replacement. Art also commended all of the Wisconsin net participants for the fine job they are doing.

BULLETIN MANAGER: BM Dale Johnson, WB9NRK, was not present. KA9KLZ gave the following report that Dale sent via e-mail. No news on OBS. Gets a report from KA9KLZ every month. Has heard K9UTQ read bulletins on the

Central Area Digital Automated Message Centers

Mark Frequency

N0FBW: 7067 (night 3617) - APLINK
BBS - AMTOR

K10JO: 7070.4 7075.4 (night 3612.9
3619.9) - WINLINK BBS - PACTOR

W9PEK: 7070.4 (night 3622.9) -
WINLINK BBS - PACTOR

These are approximate frequencies (within a hundred cycles or so as all rigs differ slightly). The AFSK LSB dial frequency will be about 2.1 kHz higher.

The "NTS" command will list all NTS traffic on the board and you can read the ones you want. Traffic for any destination may be entered on K10JO and N0FBW. W9PEK for Kentucky only.

To enter traffic use the form:

st***** (zip) @ nts** (state)

For example:

st 53701 @ ntswi

The subject may be the city of destination. On AMTOR use the word "at" instead of @. Any personal messages may be read with "rm"

Hale, W9CBE

net and Dale reads bulletins on some 2 meter nets. If you would like to be an OBS, contact Dale.

Net Manager Reports

BADGER WEATHER NET (BWN): BWN N/M Rick Elsner, W9RCW, is recovering from surgery and is bedridden and cannot participate in the meeting. BWN delegate Gus Bonow, W9IHW, reported that the net is doing well with the traffic about the same. Gus said that conditions have been bad in the mornings, but with the help of N9TMI in Missouri and AA0M in Kansas, the traffic is getting passed.

BADGER EMERGENCY NET (BEN): BEN N/M Wayne Schanke, KE9VU, reported that poor propagation at noon is slowing down the net. Check-ins are down from 22 per net to 16. Traffic is down from 5 or 6 to 3 per net. Need a Sunday net control station and some more Ninth Region reps. W9CBE and K9FHI have been doing most of the Ninth Region duties. Late WIN representation is good. W9UW suggested trying 40 meters when props are bad on 75.

Continued on page 11

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Continued from page 10

WISCONSIN SIDEBAND NET (WSBN): WSBN N/M Dan Novotny, WB9WHQ, reported that since June, the net has averaged 78 messages and 549 stations per month. Dan reported that the numbers are down a little. Dan said that the nets need more participation and some Alternate net control stations are needed. Net controls are needed on Saturday and Sunday. Dan reported that he has issued net certificates to W9IME and W9IBL. The nets are going good and thanks to all of the participants and net control stations.

WISCONSIN NOVICE NET (WNN): WNN N/M Pat Carlson, KB9OCZ, was not present. Lee, N9BDL, reported things are normal for the WNN.

WISCONSIN SLOW SPEED NET (WSSN): WSSN N/M Lee Andreas, N9BDL, reports that he has a cold and has difficulty speaking and apologizes for the short reports. Lee reports that everything is normal and doing well on the WSSN.

WISCONSIN INTERSTATE NET/EARLY (WIN/E): WIN/E N/M Larry Guthu, WB9ICH, was not present. Delegate Hale Blakely, W9CBE, reported that the net is looking good with most net control and ninth region slots filled.

WISCONSIN INTERSTATE NET/LATE (WIN/L): WIN/L N/M Ron Tlachac, W9UW, reported that the net is going good. Traffic is up and conditions are mostly good; at least better than last year. Ron also reported that all net control and Ninth Region slots are filled.

Old Business

KA9KLZ reported that he turned the WNA web page over to KY9P.

Chairman W9UW discussed the proposal to restructure the amateur licensing system. K9FHI said he had no information on the proposal. Ron thought that the nets should gain some participation if the proposal goes through.

Wisconsin NTS Traffic Report December 1998

Check-ins were up, traffic was down, and total net time was up in December. With all seven nets reporting, 3232 stations passed 2012 messages in 5508 minutes. BWN/1660, BEN/92, WBSN/82, WNN/23, WSSN/30, WIN-E/82, and WIN-L/43.

Nine stations had traffic totals in excess of 100, four of whom made Brass Pounders League. The stations were: K9JPS/833 (BPL), K9RTB/789 (BPL), W9IHW/521 (BPL), WB9YPP/408, K9GU/401 (BPL for over 100 deliveries), W9CBE/373, N9KHD/171, W9YCV/106, and N9CK/100.

Twenty seven stations submitted Station Activity Reports, and eleven stations submitted Public Service Honor Roll reports.

Wisconsin needs another digital (PACTOR/AMTOR) station to give some relief to Hale Blakely, W9CBE. Hale has been handling several hundred messages per month and needs some help. Anyone who is interested in becoming a digital rep for

positional goes through.

New Business

W9CBE proposed that the BEN be run on 40 meters when conditions are bad on 75 meters. Hale also stated that the Ninth Region has a digital operation and more digital operators are needed. (Some instructions on using the digital mailboxes will be included with these minutes). Contact W9CBE or W9UW for details.

Hale stated that there are AMTOR/PACTOR mailboxes in Missouri on 40 meters that handle the 9RN traffic. There were several inquiries about the frequencies of the BBS's. Hale said he would write up some instructions on using the BBS's that will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

The Chairman wondered if there are any nets on or around 7283 between 12:00 and 12:30 p.m.? W9IHW said someone should monitor the frequency to determine the usage and if there is room available in that area. After much discussion, BEN N/M KE9VU said that he would leave the choice of frequencies up to the net control station.

Chairman W9UW inquired as to how we can work NTS traffic into some of the local nets, such as swap nets, etc. Ron said to think about the problem and see what we can come up with.

Ron thanked the previous officers of the WNA, Carl, WB9JSW, and Bob, N9UAR, for their service to the ham community of Wisconsin.

The Chairman fixed the date of the next WNA meeting as March 13, 1998. It will be an on-the-air meeting, following the BEN at approximately 12:30 p.m., on 3985 kHz.

With no further business at hand, the Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made and seconded (KE9VU/N9BDL) to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 1932Z, December 12, 1998.

Respectfully Submitted:
Art Evans, KA9KLZ,
WNA Secretary

Wisconsin, contact either Hale or me.

I mail my reports to League Headquarters on the 7th of the month. That makes the deadline for reports the 6th. I can accept reports until I start printing them up for mailing. If you can catch me on the BWN on the morning of the 7th all would be well.

Hale Blakely, W9CBE, Asst. STM will also accept reports and forward them to me. Hale covers most of the CW and SSB nets so there is someone on almost every net to take reports.

Reports can also be sent via packet or e-mail.

My packet address is:
KA9KLZ @ KC9KQ.WI.USA.NOAM
My e-mail address is:
aevans@mhtc.net

Thanks to all stations who participate in the Wisconsin nets. You are the nets and Wisconsin nets are the best. 73.

Submitted by:
Arthur A. Evans, KA9KLZ
Wisconsin Section Traffic Manager
January 7, 1999

Notes From the Section Manager



Roy Pedersen, K9FHI • 510 Park Street
Juneau, WI 53039



I regret to report the following Silent Keys: WD9IUY, WA9CCB.

New officers Pinery Road ARC: Pres: KB9NEL, V. Pres. K9VSO, Sec./Trea. KF9ZU.

N9UNR is the new EC for Ozaukee County.

Green Fox ARC has a new club call WB9RBC, he was a member of the club but is a Silent Key.

KB9TPA upgraded to Tech Plus. Mancorad radio club has been renewed as a Special Service Club.

Madison Swapfest is April 11. Cedarburg swapfest is May 1. I think there is one in Manitowoc in that vicinity of the month too.

Racine Megacycle swapfest July 25:

WB9SMM retired as SEC for Wisconsin. On January 1, Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR took his place.

Effective May 1, 1999, K9LGU will take the position as STM for Wisconsin as Art KA9KLZ wanted out. Presentation of certificate will be at the Madison Swapfest; thanks to Art for all his service all those years, and I'm sure Denny will do a good job.

Effective July I will not be the SM. I will resign at that time, 14 years is long enough for that job. I want time for myself and family. Please give my successor your full support; we have to keep Wisconsin with the best nets. And please give the new SM your news for the column in QST.

Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

Continued from page 10

I.R.A. Differences: Next we discussed the differences between the W.A.R. proposal and the one presented by Illinois. The major points of difference include:

POINT 1: IRA requires full time PL encode AND decode. We require OUTPUT encode only, and HIGHLY recommend the system have the capability to DECODE and even ANTI-PL the other close spaced machine, but would leave the decision to decode or not to the trustee. This issue seems to be THE main problem point between IRA and us. Bob, W9QBH, expressed their view, and some debate followed.

Bob, W9QBH, stated that their membership had "decided this issue" and if we would not require decode, the machine "would not be considered" for Close Spacing. This would only affect Wisconsin repeaters on the border with Illinois.

POINT 2: IRA does not address remote receiver sites. W.A.R. thinks the remote sites must also respect the minimum spacing distances listed for the particular bands. One of the dangers with Close Spacing is that someone will expand their area of reception with remote sites. Then the user loses because he is too close

to the undesired transmitter.

Old Business

At the last meeting it was decided to combine the three databases used by the board members into a single database accessible by the board via the Internet. After further discussion among the board members it was decided to keep the current databases separate because of security concerns with the Internet.

New Business

A problem was brought up with coordination between packet stations and using VHF/UHF frequencies for cross-banding. Dan is in close contact with WAPR. If you have any question about using a frequency contact Dan and he will determine if the frequency is currently used.

The next WAR meeting will be held in Green Bay on March 13, 1999. Virg, WB9MHS volunteered to obtain the reservations.

Virg, WB9MHS, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Greg, W9IEI and approved by all members present.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30.

Respectfully submitted:
Mark Heimmermann (KF9CS)
Wisconsin Association of Repeaters,
Secretary

The Racine Megacycle Club



Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI
Dennis Doonan, W9DAD, Secretary
c/o RMC • P.O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 53401-0003
e-mail: w9udu@wi.net

Web: <http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/>

Voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC • ARRL Affiliated

Providing communications for American Red Cross and ARES

Meeting Minutes November 10, 1998

The October 12, 1998 regular membership meeting of the Racine Megacycle Club Inc opened at 7:30 p.m. at the American Red Cross Building. President Rees Roberts, K9UUT, was absent. Vice President Bob Burgermeister, W9EH, and Secretary Mary Urban, N9ZWE, were present. All members present identified themselves.

A count was taken of dues paid members present. The Constitution calls for a quorum of 1/5 of the total membership be present to conduct club business. This quorum is necessary to hold elections at this meeting. Of 84 dues paid members, 17 were present to fulfill the quorum requirement.

Secretary Mary, N9ZWE, read the minutes of the October 12, 1998 regular membership meeting. Ken, N9WHR, made a motion to accept the report as read, Paul N9RGW seconded, and the members approved by a voice vote.

In the absence of Treasurer Bonnie, WB9ZKX, Vice President Bob, W9EH, read the treasurer's report. Ken, N9WHR, made a motion to accept the report as read, Paul, N9RGW, seconded, and the members approved by a voice vote. (Treasurer's report is attached.)

COMMITTEES

Nominating Committee Chair Ken, N9WHR, announced that Dennis, W9DAD, has been nominated for Secretary, Rees, K9UUT, President, Bob, W9EH, Vice President, Greg, KB9RMA, Treasurer, and Jonathan, KB9PUF, Activities Director.

Education Committee Chair WA9JMO stated his disappointment with the lack of cooperation he has received from club members in regards to running ham classes. He has been doing this for 4 years and doesn't have the time anymore. So with the conclusion of the class in 2 weeks, he will no longer be the Education Committee Chair or working on the committee.

Inventory Committee Chair Ken, N9WHR, has no report as yet. In the absence of Hamfest Committee Chair Rob, KF9ZT, Greg, KB9RMA, announced that the committee has adjourned until after the first of the year. Cheryl, WS9P, announced that the Sunshine Committee collected \$106 at the Repeater meeting in memory of Jim Fox, W9LXY. If anyone else is interested in making a donation, contact her. The memorial will be donated to the *Badger State Smoke Signals* on behalf of both clubs. WA9JMO is looking

Please turn to page 12



SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Steve Eisold, AA9SJ, Secretary
2220 N. 20th Street • Sheboygan WI 53083

2-Meter Repeater: 146.06 Output

The January meeting of the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by Vice-president, Larry, WB9FXQ, at 7 p.m. local time.

There were 8 members present at the meeting. The SCARC meets every second Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross building, 2032 Erie Ave., Sheboygan.

Steve, N9TRK, gave a short treasurer's report. With no activity this month the balance remained the same as last month, \$1351.73.

Art, K9XJ, is looking for volunteers for the MS walk. The MS walk will be held on Sunday, April 18, 1999 at 10 a.m. Headquarters will be at Sheboygan North High School. This is a 7.5 mile walk and

we will need 1 fixed station at the high school and at least 3 check points along the route. This is a new operation for SCARC so let's make a good showing. Contact Art if you plan on helping.

Mike, KB9DBH, provided a drawing for construction of the wall and door needed at the new club station. It will be forwarded to Jon Weeden, director of the Red Cross, along with a materials list for approval.

Valentines Dinner arrangements have been made again by Steve, N9TRK, and the event has been scheduled for February 13 at 6 p.m., at Klemme's Wagon Wheel

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The Racine Megacycle Club

Continued from page 11

for information so that an article may be published about him in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

Dennis, W9DAD, the winning team member, gave a report on the October Fox Hunt. They are looking for more teams.

Mary, N9ZWE, History Committee announced that Jim Fox has been added to the Silent Key list. Lakeshore/RMC Merger Committee Chair Greg, KB9RMA, announced that they have not had a meeting yet.

Kathy, N9ZWN, has reserved Buona Vita Pizzeria Restaurant for the Christmas party. This party is in lieu of the regular membership meeting in December. The party will be Sunday, December 13, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. There will be a \$5.00 charge per person collected at the door. Greg, KB9RMA, made a motion that the club meet for a Christmas party on Sunday, December 13, 1998, in lieu of the 2nd Monday of December regular membership meeting. Ken, N9WHR, seconded and the membership voted by voice in favor of the motion.

VP Bob, W9EH, read from a plaque received by the club, congratulating the club on its 50th year of charter affiliation with the ARRL. Bill, W9OVZ, was the first president of the RMC as an ARRL affiliated club and was instrumental in receiving the original affiliation.

VP Bob, W9EH, announced that the club needs to set the dues for 1999. A preliminary budget was handed out. The cash income is not covering the cash outflow. Due to the fact that hamfest income is unreliable, we can not count on it. Greg, KB9RMA, made a motion that the dues be set in the amount of \$24 per year. Ken, N9WHR, seconded the motion. Extensive discussion was held on the pros and cons of a dues increase. A hand vote was taken on the motion to set the dues at \$24, with 5 voting in favor of and 12 opposed. The motion failed. Ken, N9WHR, made a motion that the dues be set in the amount of \$18 per year. Cheryl, WS9P, seconded the motion. Further discussion followed. A hand vote was taken on the motion, with 8 voting in favor of and 9 opposed. The motion failed.

Dennis, W9DAD, made a motion that the dues be set in the amount of \$10 per year. Bob, W0WLN, seconded the motion. No discussion followed. A hand vote was taken on the motion, with 7 voting in favor of and 8 opposed. The motion failed. Larry, WA9JMO, made a motion to table the dues increase until a committee has studied it. Mary, N9ZWE, seconded the motion. A hand vote was taken on the motion with 8 voting in favor of and 8 opposed. The motion failed. Ken, N9WHR, made a motion that the dues be set in the amount of \$15 per year. Dennis, W9DAD, seconded the motion. A hand vote was taken on the motion with 10 voting in favor of and 8 opposed. The motion passed with the dues being set at \$15 per year for 1999.

VP Bob, W9EH, started the election process. All of the following were committee nominations unless noted and the motions passed by voice vote. Rees, Roberts, K9UUT, was nominated for President. Bob, W9EH, was nominated from the floor but refused the nomination. Greg, KB9RMA, made a motion and Tammy, KB9SXI, seconded, that K9UUT be elected President by unanimous vote. The membership voted in favor of the motion.

Bob Burgermeister, W9EH, was nominated for Vice President. Paul, N9RGW, made a motion and Dennis, W9DAD, seconded, that W9EH be elected Vice President by unanimous vote. The membership voted in favor of the motion.

Dennis Doonan, W9DAD, was nominated for Secretary. Bob, W0WLN, made a motion and Ken, N9WHR, seconded, that W9DAD be elected Secretary by unanimous vote. The membership voted in favor of the motion.

Greg Holding, KB9RMA, was nominated for Treasurer. Ken, N9WHR, made a motion and Cheryl, WS9P, seconded, that KB9RMA be elected Treasurer by unanimous vote. The membership voted in favor of the motion.

Jonathan Pauli, KB9PUF, was nominated for Activities Director. Dennis, W9DAD, made a motion and Paige KB9SNV seconded, that KB9PUF be elected Activities Director by unanimous vote. The membership voted in favor of the motion.

Ken, N9WHR, made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 8:50 p.m. Tammy, KB9SXI, seconded and the membership voted by voice in favor of the motion. □

Just a reminder, if you use e-mail consider signing up to the Sheboygan Hams mailing list. Submit your e-mail address to:

julian@bongo.tele.com

E-mail sent to shebham@tele.com will be forwarded to all listed subscribers. Thanks again to N6ARE for providing the mail server for SCARC and ARES use.

For those of you who are not on the web and have correspondence for the club, our address is: PO Box 1282, Sheboygan WI. 53082-1282.

Net Schedules

8 p.m. Monday nights, SCARC Fun Net, 147.06 PL 107.2, +.

Respectfully submitted:
Steve Eisold, AA9SJ

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
5400 Six Mile Road
Radne, WI 53402



Out of the Blizzard of '99' emerged an abundance of Good Samaritans. As our President Spencer Clope, W9LDH, can attest to, and the *Racine Journal Times* published, Elizabeth Blyth, Katie Krekling and Jessica Steig, 11 and 13-year-old young ladies voluntarily "shoveled-out" Spence's walk and driveway. Elizabeth's mother Beth, said, "the three girls just went to shovel out our mid-80-year-old neighbor without being asked or told to". When Spence offered to pay the girls for their work, they said, "No, we're just doing it Spencer, because we care about you and you're our neighbor and it's the thing to do". Spence said the girls stayed about three hours.

Chuck Knotek, W9GKM, had a little different experience as the "Blizzard"

decided his beam antenna needed some modification and shorten one the beam's elements. Chuck tells us the antenna seems to working OK but he has no idea of what the "radiation pattern" might be.

Chuck's wife Marcy has been wired to a circuit board and a pair of batteries to assist in bone stimulation. The circuit and power source were removed at the end of January, and from the reports we get from Chuck, the batteries did their job. Speedy recovery, Marcy.

The news from our Alabama members comes second hand. Art, W9VSO, and Terry (Squeeks), N9VKF, Vahovius are visiting the Southern Medical Doctors quite regularly. Squeeks needs a shoulder

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Bill Yeager, Sr., N9FSZ, President

979 N. Front Street, P. O. Box 283

Rib Lake, WI 54470

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, February 4th at 7 p.m. in the Emergency Government meeting room located in the basement of the sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on the 147.15 Medford repeater (+600 kHz) or 146.52 MHz simplex.

MEETING AGENDA

Elections for club officers for 1999 will be held at the February meeting.

CLARK/TAYLOR COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) NEWS

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ
ARES Emergency Coordinator

Don't forget to try to check into the weekly ARES net held Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. on the Medford repeater (147.75/147.15). If the repeater is down or not functioning properly, alternate frequencies, in order, are 147.15 MHz simplex and 146.52 MHz simplex. You're also encouraged to volunteer for net control duty for the net.

The following provided Amateur Radio communications services for the 7th Annual Perkinstown Tramp Snowshoe Races and Tours held on January 16, 1999 in the Perkinstown area of Taylor County: N9GHZ, N9RRF and N9UWY.

CONGRATULATIONS TO..

Dean Young, KA9SMQ, who received his Master's Degree in Exercise Science and Cardiac Rehabilitation from Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago on December 23, 1998. Dean is currently employed as a sales representative for Life Fitness of Franklin Park, IL. Dean's parents are Louis (KA9UXN) and Joan Young of Colby, WI.

Jessica Winzenried, KB9AMX, a recipient of the 1998 West Allis Radio

Amateur Club \$1000 Memorial Scholarship, administered by the Foundation For Amateur Radio (FAR). Jessica is in her senior year at UW-Stevens Point. Her major is Communications with minors in Business and Political Science. Jessica's father is Marc Winzenried, WA9ZCO. Both are former residents of Abbotsford and Dorchester, and former members of the club.

CORRECTION

In the January, 1999 issue of BSSS, we reported that Ed Malinowski, KA9MVG, of Loyal, is now residing at Bethel Nursing and Rehab Center, 8014 Bethel Rd., Arpin, WI 54410. There was an error in the directions given to get there. The corrected directions are as follows: From Marshfield, travel appx. 7 miles south on Hwy. 13 to County Trunk Hwy. N where it goes EAST. EAST on CTH N, appx. 1/2 mile EAST of the intersection of CTH T to Bethel Rd., then just south of the intersection on the left-hand side of the road. Visitors would be appreciated and welcome.

Effective 12/15/98, the 147.75/15 repeater located at Medford, WI is now on full-time PL (CTCSS) access. The tone is 114.8 Hz (tone 2A).

IMPORTANT REMINDER

1999 Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club membership dues and Badger State Smoke Signals subscription renewals are now due and payable. Dues can be paid at an upcoming meeting or can be sent to acting club treasurer Bernie Jari, KA9WDX, W3159 Hanley Lane, Medford, WI 54451. Dues are \$10.00/year. The club member's share of their club subscription to BSSS is \$7.00/year for 1999. Checks should be made payable to Taylor Co. Area Amateur Radio Club.

NOTE: If your club dues and/or BSSS subscription are NOT paid for by February 28, 1999, your access to the autopatch and other new repeater features will be revoked and your BSSS subscription will be terminated. Also, the club treasury is presently at an all-time low, but we still have regular expenses to pay for. So get those dues in today! Don't delay! □

Mancorad Radio Club

Mary Langer, KB9GOY,
Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

MEETING MINUTES January 13, 1999

The monthly meeting of ManCoRad was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Fred, W6BSF. The minutes of the December meeting were approved as published in Badger Smoke Signals. The motion was made by Red, N9GHE, and seconded by Glenn AA9MT. Fred, W6BSF, presented the treasurer's report for Roger, W9NPX, who was unable to attend this meeting. A motion was made by Red, N9GHE, and seconded by Glenn, AA9MT, to accept the treasurer's report as read.

OLD BUSINESS

The club received a thank you card from Roger, W9NPX, in regards to flowers we sent to him while he was recovering from back surgery. Get well quick, Roger.

Club shack cleanup and inventory originally scheduled in January was postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date to be announced.

Fred, W6BSF, and Dick, N9QFY, will try to look at and fix the club's R-5 vertical this spring.

The club Christmas party was a big success and everyone had a great time.

Gifts were exchanged and the dinner was excellent.

The monthly membership drawing, originally scheduled to start at the January meeting, will start at the February meeting when the new club roster is complete.

NEW BUSINESS

Fred, W6BSF, (RACES) announced that the National Weather Service in Green Bay is offering Manitowoc County emergency response personnel an opportunity to participate in severe weather spotter training later this winter or spring. The classes are 90 minutes in length. Fred has requested around 15 seats for the class and specified April as a good month for us to attend. Actual dates and times will be announced when Fred receives them.

Red, N9GHE, will chair the 1999 hamfest committee. Please contact him to volunteer your time. A committee meeting will be held in late January. A new hamfest flyer for the hamfest was made by Ron, WS9X, and Janice, N9IQZ. Thank you to both of them.

Fred, W6BSF, talked about our USS Cobia sub event to be held on April 24-25. There will be around 25 submarines operating via the ham bands on that weekend.

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ManCoRad Radio Club

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Fred is working on a new QSL card or certificate for this event. He will also write an article on this event for publishing in the Smoke Signals. We need operators for this 2 day event. Please call Fred, W6BSF, or Eric, AF9J, if you can help out. Visiting hams are more than welcome to come aboard and help too.

Our club has been invited to participate in the Sheboygan club's Field Day operation this year. Contact Fred, W6BSF, for more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. with lunch served after the meeting.

Submitted for approval:

Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 24-25: Sub weekend aboard the USS Cobia

May 8: Hamfest

October 9: Fall club family picnic at Lincoln Park cabin #1

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Fred	W6BSF
Dick	N9QFY
Red	N9GHE
Paul	AA9WI
Len	N9QFO
Glenn	AA9MT
John	WB3AVX
Don	KB9NTL

Final Journey of USCG "Glacier"

Continued from page 9

sputtering up through the anchor chain hawse pipes. My mood matches the weather. We just can't seem to get this operation started. With our course 056, and wind from the East-Southeast, Glacier is rolling considerably.

About 1030, I was "piped" to the ham shack. That means paged, to the non sailors. Pete reported that propagation is wide open, and wants to start the phone patch schedule! OPS radio says OK, so we are off. I told Pete, "Go man go!" and Pete went at it. What a difference 40 minutes makes!

1800 - still 17 March

'Tis a fine St. Patrick's Day! We averaged about ten patches an hour for almost five hours, when 20 meters folded. From this part of the world signals can go from +15 to near zero in less than 15 minutes.

It was 'on-the-job training' for a time, until we got organized. Our planning was good, but had to be refined somewhat.

At this point I must write about the Maritime Nets and all those wonderful folks that make it work, and the Stateside patch stations who stay with us hour after hour so this crew can talk to their loved ones, so far away. It is truly the Amateur Radio Service at its finest!

I have handled patches from the Glacier at home, but somehow, when one is on the other end, and to see the delight on the faces of these crew members, and hear the pathos in their voices, talking from some 8000 miles from home it is a very different situation. I'm a softy for this sort of thing, and readily admit some difficulty in keeping my composure. It is most gratifying to be a part of this service, and a deeply moving experience. I guess I would have made this trip even if I had to go in hock to do it. Pete and I missed supper, but no matter.

Earlier, son Mike stopped by, and offered to send up chow, but we were really on a roll and wanted to keep going. At this pace, it is a two man operation. Pete has one crew member in the "Swizzle Seat," one on deck, and two more arriving at six minute intervals. It works beautifully except when Stateside gets a busy signal or no answer. We are getting folks out of bed, but they don't mind.

Finally, propagation folded, we got our paperwork done, and Pete and I headed below. In all the commotion, we didn't notice the steadily increasing roll. Getting about requires precision timing, and a definite destination target -- one that can be hung onto. Anyway, we found supper waiting for us, and dug in. I'm sure glad Pete is around to help.

2130 - still 17 March

Settled in a little early. Son Mike called from the bridge for Bill's plot. We are at 18° 24' South, and 157° 07' West, course, 057. The turn point was reached at 0533 this morning, and we are now on course for Maui. The reason for 057 is a strong current set.

Mike has the 2000-2400 watch, and I am too cranked up to sleep, so I'm going up and help him look at dials and gages, watch SATNAV click off the miles, and maybe brag a little.

2300 - still 17 March

Saw some rain squalls on radar, but nothing else except ground clutter from the heavy seas. Lots of white water, and the anchor hawse pipes are shooting geysers again. Skies are overcast, but one can see clearly. The Pacific is definitely unfriendly tonight. The bridge clinometer is showing 21 to 24 degree rolls, but Glacier rumbles on at a steady 13.6 knots, from some 8400 horses.

Have to stuff a rolled up blanket under the edge of my mattress, to stay put tonight. Its a long way from my top bunk to that steel deck!

0700 - 18 March

Son Mike informs me it is laundry day, so we packed it up just in time, then up to the wardroom for the usual coffee and doughnuts. The wardroom was not crowded. It's back to my Navy days as to eating habits. The ship's motion doesn't bother me (so far) but I just don't get hungry.

Continued next month, and the ham shack does tons of business!

QCWA/Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Continued from page 12

replacement and Art's legs are not performing as desired. It is hoped that a few low-band contacts or a written communique or two will allow us to glean more details. We are also wishing a speedy recovery to the both of you.

Fern Fisher, W9LCJ, has been under the weather with flu-like symptoms that have hit her rather hard. But as of the January meeting, a member reported that Fern was on the mend and should be out and about soon.

Grab your calendars and mark the following dates:

On Sunday, February 14, the Chapter will host its annual Valentine outing at the Chancery Restaurant (next to the Radisson Hotel) just off I-94 and Hwy. 165 in Kenosha. We will meet in the Executive room at 1 p.m. (Reminder postcards will be sent.) The Chapter will present each lady attending with a Red Carnation.

Our March business meeting will take place on the 15th at the Meadows Restaurant in Franksville beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Our Anniversary gala event will take place at Bentley's American Grille Restaurant at the Marriott Hotel, 7111 Washington Avenue, Racine, on Sunday, April 18, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

73, Larry McCalvy,
WA9JMO

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

Steve Hart, KA9OMC, Secretary

E616 810th Avenue

Knapp, WI 54749

2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

Greetings, RCRA members and guests.

KF9CU, Arlene Kraft recently reminded us that one of our group's valued sponsors (Doug's Super Fair Foods) has been sold and that the UPC label program may not be extended. Arlene and yours truly presented owner Doug Clements a certificate of merit on January 20 in recognition of his business' service to the amateur community.

"WHEREAS, Doug's Super Fair Foods has established a program for non-profit clubs like RCRA to save and submit Shurfine and Price Saver UPC labels for cash and has raised over \$300 for RCRA since January, 1990. Over 10,000 labels were saved and honored."

Signed: Label Drive Manager KF9CU, Arlene Kraft.

We are happy to report that during our presentation with Doug, he indicated that the new owner would be extending the program. Please keep saving those labels.

KB9LUK, James Kinney, and KB9QGK, Deana Kinney, are looking into the method and cost of creating some transfer of RCRA logo onto t-shirts, etc., in celebration of the group's upcoming 25 year anniversary. We may have these available at the upcoming auction.

Sorry to report that WA9CCB, Louis Forster at Durand, has gone silent. Louis was retired from the postal service and enjoyed ham radio, gardening and fishing. It was common to get a call on the repeater from him after the morning walk and usually before the evening news. "Charlie, Charlie Baker" or "Wobbly After Nine Cold Cold Beers", as we referred to him had served as a Second Lieutenant Signal Corps in the China-Burma campaign. As communications officer there, he was awarded the Bronze Star for service from July 29, 1944 to

August 28, 1944. He received this award for "always keeping a line of communications to the front line artillery." As we miss Louis, we will remember some of the color of his language, like a message he more recently told, "It's what you learn after you know it all".

KE9VA, Rolin Carlson at Boyceville, is looking for a VGA computer monitor. Rolin is also in need of some hard line connectors. Call him at (715) 643-7777.

KB9LUK, James Kinney at Eau Galle, reminds us that packet radio linking between W9NNS and the Minneapolis area is almost complete on 145.69 MHz and there will be a BBS later. It is also looking like the "Durand Remote" receive site to the repeater will go into a parcel owned by KB9LUK and YL KB9QGK.

The next gathering is the Eau Claire Auction. Please plan to attend the club auction scheduled for February 23, 1999 at the American Legion Post 53 at 634 Water Street, Eau Claire. Auction time is 7 p.m. sharp. Doors open at 6 p.m. for you to set up your items. Equipment should pertain to the electronics hobby. Please mark all items with some identification and what you will accept for a minimum bid. Some snacks and coffee will be provided. W9-QAH, Bruce Walther, will auction your items to the highest bidder. The RCRA is not responsible for any loss. Keep track of your stuff. All sales are final and we will auction what time will allow. Admission is \$3 at the door or paid 1999 RCRA support. RCRA will retain 10% of all sales to offset expenses. Door prizes will be offered. Come buy, sell, or just have fun. See you at the Eau Claire Auction.

RCRA Secretary/Treasurer
Steve Hart, KA9OMC

Wind damage

Continued from page 8

tremely restricted "and contacting people in that area is extremely difficult right now." In addition to health-and-welfare and damage assessment traffic, he said Amateur Radio was filling the gap as long-distance telephone circuits have become overloaded. "That's why we're handling as much traffic as we are." Damage was primarily confined to four areas, and he expected ham radio involvement to conclude within 24 hours.

Gray said five weather-spotting net control stations were active. The EC in charge, James Wiles, KK5WM, in Beebe, suffered damage to his house and had to move operations to a Red Cross shelter, Gray reported. Hams are expected to become involved in damage assessment.

The National Weather Service confirmed that "between two and three dozen" tornadoes damaged or destroyed homes and businesses in Little Rock, Beebe, Searcy, and in other locations to the north and east. Large hail also was reported, including "baseball to grapefruit size hail near Hot Springs and around the Little Rock and Conway areas," the NWS said.

"Another wild night in Arkansas," said ARRL Vice President Joel Harrison,

W5ZN, in Judsonia, who reported "lots of damage" in his area. "I have to tell you, in my 41 years of living here, I have never seen storms like we had last night," he said. Harrison said the first line came through around 5 PM, "then another, and another, and another for what seemed like every half hour till about 10:30 PM."

"The damage in a 10 mile radius around my home is horrible!" Harrison said.

Arkansas State University in Beebe -- where his son, Mark, attends school -- had extensive damage. "There is considerable damage in Little Rock, even to the Governor's Mansion," he added.

Mark Harrison, KC5YNE, said most of the town of Beebe was damaged or destroyed, and eight tornadoes hit White County alone. He reports the family spent an anxious night. "It was a relief when the storms finally quit, and everything was fine here," he said.

Meanwhile, Delta Division Vice Director Henry Leggett, WD4Q, in Memphis, Tennessee, reports considerable ham radio activity in the Jackson area, where tornadoes hit last weekend, as well as in Clarksville, where twisters struck early on the morning of January 21.

Condensed from *The ARRL Letter*, January 25, 1999

COMING IN MARCH BSSS: APRS - What it is and how it works, written by Tom Weeden, WJ9H.. and BSSS Quiz #2; nice prizes - for subscribers only. Snail and email entries will be accepted.



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association
Allen Schnepf, N9GMJ, Treasurer
Ogema, WI 54459

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 453 Cottage Grove Avenue • Green Bay, WI 54304 • e-mail: kb9aln@juno.com

WAPR News - February, 1999

Welcome to cold, cold February. Our mild December weather gave way to a rather nasty awakening in January, followed by a welcome thaw. In spite of the holidays and the nasty weather, we did have a little activity recently that is certainly good to report.

Joel, N9BQM has been busy with an "experimental" node in Rudolph. The experiment has been successful, because the node is now officially active. You see, the node shares a site with a voice repeater, and the experiment was needed to make certain that there was no interference to the repeater system.

And so far, there are no problems. This is in spite of the fact that it is on VHF, and so is the repeater located at the site. The node operates at 145.585, is known as #RUD2, with a call-sign of W9DQA-2. What makes this node all the more interesting is the fact that it operates at 9600 bps! There has been limited 9600 bps operation on 2 meters, and this will be an interesting situation to watch. It is our hope that it enjoys a lot of use.

Most 9600 bps LAN nodes have been located on UHF to date. There is no reason why one can't be located on VHF, in fact, there are a few good reasons to do so. For one, VHF radios are cheaper than UHF radios. For two, there is a good supply of commercial VHF transceivers available, and a lot of them have modulators that are compatible with 9600 bps operation. And of course, they are a little easier to set up than their UHF counterparts.

Mind you, the same performance requirements exist to make a successfully operating VHF 9600 bps station as a UHF 9600 bps station. However, in time we will gain a lot of experience in this, and the changeover should be less painful than it has been in the past.

Joel, N9BQM is still looking for an intermediate node site to make the hop between Rudolph and Timm's Hill. If you know of a good node site between these two locations, or know of somebody who may be able to help, please contact Joel in one of the following ways:

BBS: N9BQM@N9BQM.EN44WK.WI.USA.NOAM
E-Mail: jpapke@badger.tds.net
"Snail Mail": 7968 Ubinger, Pittsville, WI. 54466

As always, I'm looking for news concerning packet radio, and will be happy to publish it here.

Until next time, 73 from Andy.

Packet Station Security

By Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

When packet radio first came onto the scene, equipment was minimal and operating modes were pretty well defined. Generally, a dumb terminal hooked to a TNC was the way first packet contacts were made, and few personal computers dotted the packet landscape. In what seems like a remarkably short time, we have seen personal computers leapfrog ahead in speed and capability, while taking a significant dive in prices. Because the personal computer has become more available, software authors have written more features and capabilities into their programs. As a result, our packet stations are far more capable than they were in the dawn of packet radio.

Along with the added capabilities of file transfers, automatic mail collection and other niceties, we've seen other additions to the packet landscape. While it seems we've always had the venerable BBS, we have also seen the addition of the Internet Gateway. While these are a lot of fun, and our programs allow us to do a lot more than ever before, there is a down side to innovation. You may not be vulnerable to security problems in your particular station, but how do you know for sure? In this article, we will discuss security issues in an effort to reassure you about, or make you more alert to computer security issues in this brave new packet world.

The Threats:

There are three main threats to concern yourself with in terms of security for your packet station. The first is unauthorized access to your TNC, the second is unauthorized entry into your computer. The third is the possibility of getting a virus from a file.

Who's in your TNC or computer?

These are really issues only for some people. How do you determine if you are one of these people? The answer is easy enough.

If you're using a dumb terminal to communicate with your TNC, there is (obviously) no computer to gain access

to. This means the only potential for problems of this nature involve gaining access to a TNC. Most TNC's are pretty restrictive in this area, but some do allow remote sysopping. The best way to prevent problems is to keep the remote sysop function turned off. If you must use it, choose your password(s) carefully and change them often. The damage done to a TNC is pretty benign - it can usually be cleared out by a reset. But it is still a problem that you would rather not have, so do be vigilant here. If you are running your TNC in the KISS mode (required to run TCP/IP and some BBS programs), invasion of your TNC is practically impossible.

If you are running a TNC with a computer and simple terminal emulation software, the danger of unauthorized entry into your computer is slim. Why? Simple enough - the software only allows minimal access to the computer. The only real way to get access to one's computer in this case is through direct operator intervention (e.g. a file upload or download).

File uploads and downloads are fairly safe, depending on what file. Most terminal programs do not have any way of allowing access to the computer, so any threat would more likely be unauthorized entry into the TNC. The other danger here is a virus in a file you have transferred. See the information further on in this article for virus precautions. Generally speaking, the more a program does, the greater the risk of unauthorized computer access. For that reason, simple terminal programs are best in terms of security.

Operators who have elaborate TNC host programs are the ones who stand to be most affected by unauthorized entry into a computer. In short, anyone who runs a program that allows any unattended access to the computer's hard drive has the potential to be visited by an unauthorized person. WinPack, PaKet, Eskay Packet SP, Graphic Packet, TSTHost, Baycom, Hostmaster, Packratt, and MFJ Host all allow some access to the computer's hard drive, in one way or another. BBS programs like MSYS, FBB, RLI BBS, and others are also somewhat of a security risk, but are better prepared to thwart intruders. Special risks are present in JNOS, TNOS, and any other KA9Q NOS-based system. Linux systems are also very vulnerable. Not because they are poor at trapping unauthorized interlopers, but because of their expanded capabilities and the elaborate setup required in order to make them function correctly.

The lowest risks of these include Hostmaster, Packratt, and the MFJ Host program. The most that these programs will do is to allow remote sysopping, and file exchanges. If you are running one of these programs, and have taken precautions to prevent access to your TNC, you are fairly safe. Of course you should take care to avoid picking up, or unwittingly spreading, a virus.

The other programs like PaKet, SP, and the rest do allow expanded ability to access a computer's hard drive, as well as some control-operator functions. At least one of these will allow you to completely format a drive remotely! The important thing to note here is that this capability is all configurable - no one automatically has access to your computer. If you do not take proper care in setting up all of the configuration files, you could very well have a problem on your hands. It is crucial to read and understand the documentation, and follow all precautions the software writer recommends. The safest thing to do is to allow no remote access until you are sure you are thoroughly familiar with, and totally understand, how the remote access functions work on your particular program.

BBS programs are perhaps the most well-equipped to deal with intruders. They have passwords and a list of permitted remote sysops. It is difficult (but not impossible) to break through these barriers. The best advice that can be given concerning this is to keep your list of remote Sysops a short one. And do follow all of the precautions recommended in the software manual.

BBS programs like JNOS, TNOS, and the like are vulnerable because of the tremendous capabilities they have. They are well-equipped to deal with most problems, but they must be set up properly to do this. Setup files like FTPUSERS and the like should be thoroughly understood before allowing anyone remote access to your computer.

Viruses: Myth and Truth.

As one who has dealt with a virus, I can tell you that it is no fun. I can also tell you that the likelihood of picking one up via packet is not great, but it can happen. You should know how viruses propagate, and how they don't to protect yourself. In addition to a few valid virus warnings, you will also find a number of hoaxes spread on the internet as well as through the packet BBS network. One of the most memorable in recent times is the "Good Times" virus warning that resurfaces from time to time on packet, as well as the internet.

First off, contrary to the "Good Times" virus warning

that you may have seen, you cannot get a virus from a text message. In order for a virus to propagate, it needs to corrupt an executable file. This is a program file, such as a utility or a game. Viruses can live in an E-Mail attachment, but only if you open the attachment. Any file with the extension .COM or .EXE has the potential to be infected with a virus. Another type of file you should not forget is one with a .ZIP extension. This type of file is a compressed archive that may contain more than one file, and it may contain .EXE or .COM files in addition to .TXT files. As I mentioned before, .TXT files are safe and cannot be infected. The chances of receiving an e-mail attached file through, say, an internet gateway may be slim, but it is possible. Most common packet programs do not have the capability to receive such attachments.

There are a number of other hoaxes that you will see pop up from time to time. The best general advice I can give you is to refuse anything you don't trust, do not open any E-Mail attachments that you aren't expecting, put any new files directly onto a floppy disk, and then use a virus scanning program on that disk. See the sidebar for internet addresses of organizations that deal with internet security issues for more information.

Summary:

Most packet operators may never have to worry too much about security, but it should be on your mind. Internet gateways provide an easy access point to the amateur packet network for Internet crackers. While we'd like to think that hams are all benevolent, there are some who do get their jollies from making others miserable. As we see more Internet gateways and as our programs and packet systems become more capable, security concerns will be more in the forefront. But if you have a gateway nearby, or use the same computer for the internet as packet, there is a possibility for problems. And you should at least start thinking of it now, before you have problems.

That's all for this time. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

Information Sources

There are a number of places on the World Wide Web to get the latest information on computer security issues, as well as viruses and virus hoaxes. Some of them are centered on the DOS operating system, others on Unix/Linux.

For a master list of other WWW sites devoted to computer security issues:
<http://www.first.org>

For information pertaining to real viruses, look up:
<http://www-mcb.ucdavis.edu/info/virus.html>

Alternately, you can search the web sites of producers of anti-virus software, such as Symantec (Norton Anti-Virus) or VirusScan
(<http://www.mcafee.com>).

For information on virus hoaxes, try these:
<http://ciac.llnl.gov/ciac/CIACHoaxes.html>
<http://www.kumite.com/myths>

For information on chain letters, try:
<http://ciac.llnl.gov/ciac/CIACChainLetters.html>

If you operate using the Linux operating system, there are a number of applicable newsgroups you can subscribe to. Among the more pertinent are:

linux-newbie - Help for new users of Linux
linux-admin - Linux administration
linux-config - Help with configuring Linux
linux-net - Networking with Linux
linux-new-lists - A listing of new mailing lists.

To subscribe to a mailing list, send a message to majordomo@vger.rutgers.edu.

mojordomo is not a person, rather an automated remailer "robot" that only understands commands put in a certain syntax.

When sending off your subscription request, leave the subject line blank. Put the word subscribe followed by the name of the mailing list in the body of the message. Use lower-case. Also, delete your signature from the message, otherwise you will see a number of error reports when your subscription is verified.

Continued from page 4

smoked ham from occurring (due to difference in potential between transceiver and linear amplifier).

Now that we have the AC power situation in order, all we need is to go to retrieve our pre-shipped cargo containing the antenna mast, coax, yagi antenna, and Battle Creek special antenna from the U.S. post office so we can complete the stations and move our operation to full strength. Fanfare to the common ham (prior to going postal): Rudy and I arrived at the Koror post office at 08:00 a.m. on Monday (the start of the business week). We planned to retrieve our 8 meter mast, multi-band yagi, all of our high-quality RG-213/U coax, and the Battle Creek special low-band antenna, all of which had been shipped well in advance of our arrival at Palau.

Upon arrival at the post office, I noticed two existing tri-band yagi antennas atop a nearby multi-story building, the V.I.P. Guest Hotel, owned and operated by Mr. George Ngirarsaol, T88GN.

Despite being pre-shipped six weeks in advance with assurances by two separate U.S. postal employees of arrival in no more than ten (10) days (and the assurance from former DXpeditioners that this method worked successfully), none of our four (4) pre-shipped packages containing this mission-critical hardware had arrived at Palau!

Once Rudy brought me out of shock, we returned to the hotel to discuss our options and formulate possible solutions.

First and foremost, we promised topband emphasis. In addition, we included 10 meters through 30 meters operation in our operating plans. To make good on our promise and deliver what we had planned, we first constructed a full-sized 160m dipole/inverted vee with an additional fan dipole element for 75/80 meters. We placed this antenna 7 meters above the flat concrete roof of New Koror Hotel which has a down-looking view of saltwater in almost all directions and was pre-equipped with ample hardware to support the required structure. When the New Koror Hotel roof was insufficient to sprawl out the entire 160M half-wavelength wire, we engaged the loan of neighbors' palm trees as end supports to hold this simple, yet ultra-effective antenna. This antenna, which also played on other bands when used through our antenna tuner, proved to be the primary workhorse antenna from this (New Koror Hotel) location.

For our high-band station, we negotiated for the use of T88GN's V.I.P. guest hotel and antennas for 10M, 15M, and 20M at a station location roughly 1 km from the New Koror Hotel. Later, we relocated the 40M dipole to the V.I.P. Guest Hotel location to reduce inter-station interference.

Bringing this dual-station system to operation afforded us coverage of all bands from diverse physical locations of adequate separation to eliminate the possibility of inter-station interference.

We made 13,500 QSOs during this operation on all nine bands from 10m-160M. The final QSO was made with K9AW/DU6 on 18-December, 1998 at 00:18 UTC. During the expedition, we regularly checked and adjusted our approach using available indicators to guide us. We listened to WWV to retrieve propagation conditions and forecasts, solar flux, A, and K indices. In addition, we relied heavily upon the highly useful Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) beacons at 14.100 MHz, 18.110 MHz, 21.200 MHz, and 24.930 MHz to determine band openings and maximize the efficiency/productivity of our operation.

Thank you kindly to our sponsors including Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF), the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB), Chiltern DX Club (CDXC), German DX Foundation (GDXF), Alpha Power, the Greater Milwaukee DX Association, Northeast Wisconsin DX Association, the Watertown (Wisconsin) Amateur Radio Club, the Battle Creek special team, and the thousands of you who directly and indirectly helped us succeed by supporting and working us. We hope you enjoyed the show; we look forward to the opportunity to serve you again.

On the return trip through Tokyo-Narita, we met Jim, JR1RCQ, (1989 VK9ZM Mellish Reef/VK9ZW Willis Island DXpedition), and Isao JH1ROJ (DXpeditioner extraordinaire) for lunch and discussed that topic we all love: DXing!

Topband highlights

I was on topband faithfully from local sunset to local sunrise every night except one single night when the A index was 32 and there were no signals coming through on 160M (I spent the remainder of that night on 75M with quick checks back to 160M in case the band would open). I transmitted on 1.8275 MHz, listening up (by design) a full 7 kHz to prevent stations calling me from interfering with their local neighbors trying to hear my relatively weaker signal.

I had to dodge several fish-net locator buoys and found 1.834 MHz to be a quiet frequency most of the time.

worked, our heartfelt congratulations. We personally share your pride! We worked as far east in North America as Florida and North Carolina.

For those 160 meter stations we were unable to work, I assure you we made a comprehensive topband effort. We worked all who were there and to whom we were blessed with band openings, however brief and

Thank you for your consideration of those who did not need us on top band and stood by to allow others the opportunity. You are the true gentlemen who make 160 meters the gentleman's band!

¹ "Disaster on Palau," *The DX Magazine*, volume 09, issue 05, Sept./Oct. 1997.



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary
450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959



The January 5, 1999 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was called to order at 7:55 p.m. by club President Steve Schulze, N9UDO.

Minutes of the December 1, 1998 meeting were approved as published in the January Badger State Smoke Signals. A treasurer's report was given by Bill Klinkner, N9KXX. Also, a reminder: If you haven't already sent in your dues, please do so as soon as possible.

OLD BUSINESS

A Christmas party report was given by Dave Spearling, KB9CSW. The party was held at the Hitching Post in Portage. Good food and a good time was shared by all who attended.

The sale of the club generator is still pending; there has been no further developments.

NEW BUSINESS

REMINDER: Field Day is just around the corner. This year's event will be June 26 and June 27. Please plan to attend and join in on the fun.

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX, provided an update on upcoming area Swapfests.

Buck Night winner was Phil Anderson, W9TP, but because of his absence it will be carried over to next month's meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave Spearling, KB9CSW, and seconded by Jim Paul, N9LKY. The

motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday February 2, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. room 14, Baraboo Civic Center. (Public welcome.)

Leonard D. Wagner, N9XJG
Substitute for club secretary

The following members were present:

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX	Sauk City
David Spearling, KB9CSW	Portage
Jim Paul, N9LKY	Baraboo
Michael Baker, KB9TWI	Portage
Art Kleefisch, W9WSS	Baraboo
Joe Rowland, N9PRF	Portage
Leonard Wagner, N9XJG	Baraboo
Steve Schulze, N9UDO	Baraboo
Thomas Harrison, N9PQJ	Portage

The meeting dates for the first half of 1999 are:

February 2, 1999	March 2, 1999
April 6, 1999	May 4, 1999
June 1, 1999	

Meetings are held at The Baraboo Civic Center, 124 2nd Street, Baraboo, WI, at 7:30 p.m. in room 14.

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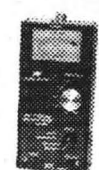
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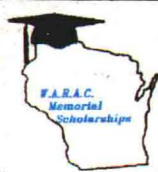
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Measure signal strength over 60 dB range, check and set FM deviation, measure antenna gain, beamwidth, front-to-back ratio, sidelobe, feedline loss in dB. Plot field strength patterns, position antennas, measure preamp gain.

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CENTER

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Michael R. Placek, KB9SCH.
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Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

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July 10, 1999

(Held every July)

American Legion Park

Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI

(414) 762-3235

P. O. Box 102

Extension: Ask for Verne

South Milwaukee, WI 53172

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8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

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Manitowoc County Expo

Intersection of Hwys. 42-151 and I-43 on Cty. Hwy. R

Saturday, May 8, 1999

For more information, call:

Glenn, AA9MT: 920-684-7096

Red, N9GHE: 920-684-9097

ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS HAMIFEST 1999

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Sunday, March 21

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Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

920-563-6502

Evenings

The Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs presents the 22nd annual Swapfest and Auction SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 1999

University Center

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FCC exams at 9 AM • Food all day long

BIG AUCTION STARTS AT NOON, COL. BRUCE WALTHER, W9QAH, AUCTIONEER

Information: Write or email Mary Eiden, KG9OK, CWRA Secretary, 2229 Dixon
Street, Stevens Point WI 54481.

E-mail: maeiden@g2a.net

Eau Amateur Radio Club HAMFEST Saturday, July 10, 1999

For Information Contact:

ECARC

P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867

http://www.ecarc.org

RACINE AMATEUR RADIO AND COMPUTER SHOW Sunday, July 25, 1999

8 A.M. - 2 P.M.

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Voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC

Web page: http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/

Ozaukee Radio Club 21ST ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST Saturday, May 1, 1999

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center

Intersection of Highway 60 and County I

Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,

5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222

Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club

1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024

Circus City Swapfest

Sponsored by The Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

Saturday August 14, 1999 • 7 a.m. - noon

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(608) 356-2313/356-4777

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX
(608) 643-6908/643-6453
http://www.thelorax.com/~sschulze/hamfest.htm

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

AUCTION

February 23, 1999 • 7:00 p.m.

American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street

Eau Claire, WI

Steve Hart, KA9OMC
E616 810th Ave.

CONTACT:

715-665-2374
Knapp, WI 54749

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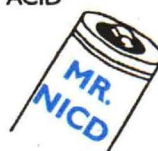
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